THE SPORTING MAGAZINE;

OR,

MONTHLY CALENDAR

OF THE

TRANSACTIONS of the TURF, the CHACE,

And every other DIVERSION interesting to the MAN of PLEASURE, ENTERPRIZE and SPIRIT,

For NOVEMBER, 1798.

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[Embellished with an Etching of a LIONESS, and a beautiful Engraving of BILLIARD PLAYING.]

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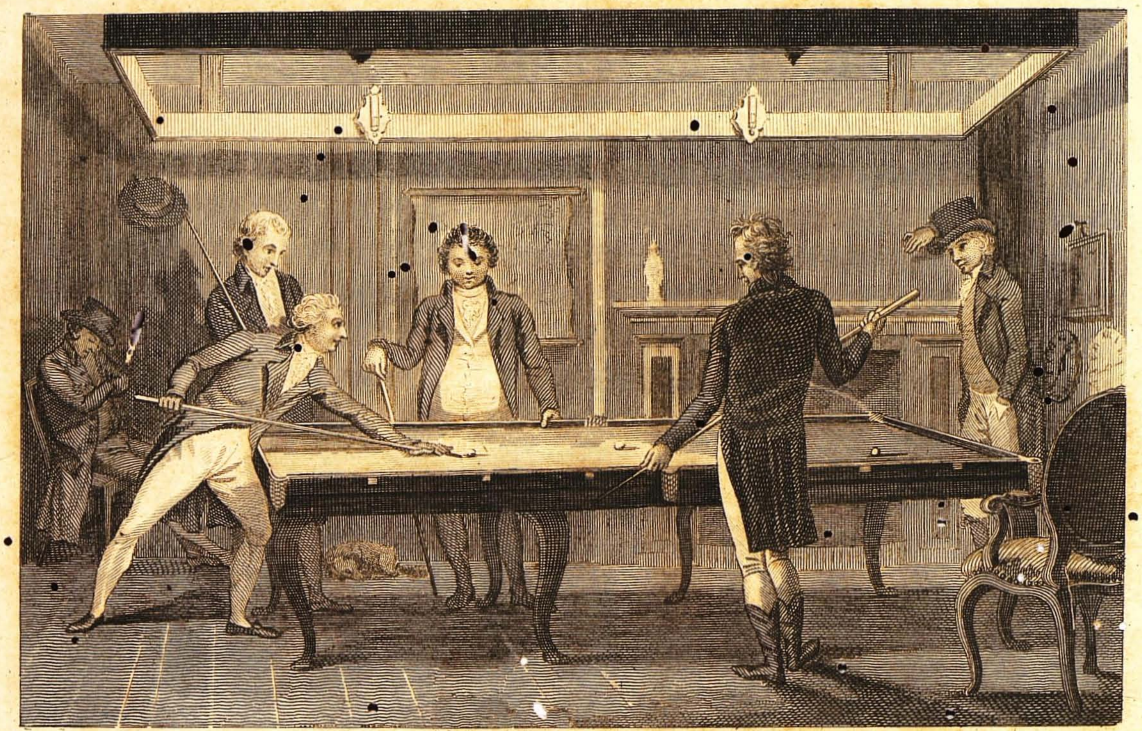
TO CORRESPONDENTS.

Had the Author of the Letter who dates from Maidenhead, and ſigns himſelf "A SUBSCRIBER," adhered to truth in the account of an extraordinary chace, (as he calls it) we ſhould have been obliged to him for his communication; but, as he has not done ſo, his letter is of courſe omitted. We *know* and allow, that the Wokingham harriers did, about the time mentioned, hunt a *fallow* deer (not a *Swinley Paddock*, or *Red Deer*, for which a heavy fine might have been levied,) in Aſhridge Wood, and had a very good run for two hours, through the pariſhes of Waltham, Hurſt, Sonning, Arborfield, and Wokingham, where he was taken. But that the chace was attended with any of the idle fabricated incidents, mentioned in "*A Subſcriber's*" letter, we both *diſcredit* and *deny*.

A Juvenal Correſpondent has ſent us *two verſions* of what we muſt ſuppoſe a tranſlation from ſome author; to one he gives the ſignature of *Cautator*, to the other *Poeta*. What his motives could be for ſending *two* performances ſo ſimilar in their compoſition, we know not, but until we underſtand why he did ſo, neither can appear. The High Court of Diana is open to all her votaries, but they muſt not attempt to appear before the chaſte Goddeſs in an equivocal character.

Cautator alias *Poeta*, ſhould have ſome little conſideration on the ſcore of poſtage—hope he will not *double* us again with either *poetry* or *poſtage*.

FRONTISPIECE.



The Game of Billiards.

THE Sporting Magazine,

For NOVEMBER, 1798.

BILLIARDS.

A beautiful Engraving is to face this Page of—BILLIARDS.

THE ſubject will be found amply treated on in our Magazine for the laſt month (page 46); of courſe nothing need be ſaid here, except that the deſign is original by Mr. Satchwell, and the engraving from it by Mr. Scott.

To the EDITORS *of the* SPORTING MAGAZINE.

GENTLEMEN,

HAVE ſent you the following performance, if you think it worth a place in your entertaining Magazine.

A SUBSCRIBER.

On Tueſday, 26th October laſt, Mr. Goldham undertook for his hack, to walk three, trot three, and gallop three miles, in one hour, for fifty pounds, carrying ten ſtone, which he performed in thirty ſeconds under the time, on the Leabridge road. The bets were two to one againſt the horſe at ſtarting, having broke down with Mr. G. in a trial, when he did it four minutes under the hour. The above horſe was bought out of a hackney coach by Mr. G. for ſix pounds.

For the SPORTING MAGAZINE.

THE word Aigrette, that ſo often meets the eye, and whoſe meaning is ſo little underſtood, I beg to give the ſolution of, from Fitzgerald's Ornithology.

I am, Sir, your's,

PODAGRA.

Greyſhoot, Nov. 16, 1798.

About forty years ago, a ſmall ſprig of feathers, or imitation thereof, in jewels and various materials, according to the claſs or ability of the wearers, graced the hair or cap, as the lateſt and moſt elegant whim of Pariſian invention and workmanſhip. The peculiar name was Aigrette, ſuppoſed, by the Engliſh votaries of faſhion, to be the French appropriate term for ſuch ſpecies of novelty. This was the ephemeron of the ton, and like the inſect, lived it's day and died.

But the Aigrette lately plucked by a potent Monarch's own hand from his deſpotic brow, with enthuſiaſtic generoſity and gratitude, and preſented to the great, the good, the brave and virtuous Nelſon, the bleſſed ſcourge of the *ſoi-diſant* Great Nation, that foe to good faith, true honour, morality, and religion, is *unique* in the world, ſcorns mutability, will yield to no caprice, but remain, unrivalled till the laſt fiat of Omnipotence.

Lord of the ſeas! take this Imperial gem,
The richeſt treaſure in our diadem;
At it's bright rays the Muſſulman ſhall bow,
Tho' worn exalted on a Chriſtian's brow;
Thou cam'ſt to ſcourge with thy avenging rod,
The Foe to Man—to Mah'met—and our GOD.

Though it's exterior be of uncommon pecuniary worth, it's delegated ſupreme power is invaluable; and the

the greatest that ever was consigned by one Monarch to the subject of another.

"The Aigrette is of the Heron "family, and distinguished by long "silky feathers on it's back, used "to form ornaments for the head-"dresses of Ladies, Knights, Sul-"tans, and are snow white," &c. &c.—*Fitzgerald's Ornithology.*

To the EDITORS *of the* SPORTING MAGAZINE.

GENTLEMEN,

IN Number LXXII. of your publication, I observed a great mistake in the Frontispiece—I mean that of the master of the Long Dog boasting his pre-eminence by displaying the Scut of the Hare.

As an old Sportsman, I beg leave to inform you, that the Scut is only taken from Hares killed with Hounds, which if any person chuses to dispute, shall be answered by

TAN TAVA.

Bath, 14th Nov. 1798.

A SPORTSMAN OF THE SIXTEENTH CENTURY.

IN our last Magazine, we presented a plate of a Sportsman of the Sixteenth Century, (see page 56, last month) and have now the satisfaction to inform our readers of the origin of the design.—In the year 1793, the Rev. Richard Warner, of Fawley, near Southampton, prepared a work for publication, entitled "Topographical Remarks, relating to the South Western parts of Hampshire," in two vols. This work Mr. Warner intended to embellish with some engravings; and amongst them, was one of *A Sportsman of the Sixteenth Century.* But, unfortunately, in a fire which happened at a Copper-plate Printers, all the plates prepared for the undertaking were destroyed, and the author compelled to publish his work without engravings.

The plate in question is thus spoken of by Mr. Warner, in a note, vol. i. page 56.

"Annexed is the representation "of a Nobleman in Queen Eli-"zabeth's time, with his hawk, "hounds, and attendants, taken "from Tuberville's book of Fal-"conrie, imprinted at London for "Christofer Barker, &c. 1575."

ORIGINAL SPORTING INTELLIGENCE.

THE Berkeley Hounds began their season on Friday, the 9th instant, at Bisham, where they continued the first week, and removed to the kennel, near Beaconsfield, for the Buckinghamshire and Watford country, till Christmas; after which they resume the Berkshire district. This establishment will undergo an alteration at the conclusion of the present season; Lord Sefton, "the best feather of our wing," withdraws himself to a pack of his *own*, in Northamptonshire, taking with him *Tom*, the huntsman, whose place here is to be supplied by the leader of the subscription pack at Hartley Row, supported by Sir Robert Sloper, Mr. Russell, &c. Whether these changes will ultimately tend to a dissolution of the Berkeley arrangement, time only can ascertain. Sorry we are to see the members rather diminish than increase; and long experience, with steady observation has convinced us, that very very few subscription packs favor enough of unanimity to render them permanent.

The King's Stag Hounds have had some tedious, but unpleasant,

as

as well as unentertaining chaces. If the deer's crossing and recrossing the Thames and it's various branches, with the horsemen riding miles without hounds, to different bridges in almost every chace, may be termed *running*, they have certainly had plenty of it; for there has hardly been a chace, but of this description, during the season. In addition, the weather has been proportionally unfavourable, and the ground is already so exceedingly deep in the wet lands, that the most eager of the field are retarded in their progress by the inconvenience, from which the Veterinarian Gentry will probably derive emolument.

HARRIERS

Exceed in number (even within the smoke of the metropolis) the utmost expectation of the enquirer. His Majesty's hunt round Windsor three and four days a week, finding *repeatedly* to a certainty on *each* day, and seldom or ever finding but to a *certain* death. On Monday's, Wednesday's, and Friday's, Mr. Wood, of Littleton, near Chertsey, hunts the entire district of Bedfont, Chalton, Hounslow Heath, and Sunbury, with a constantly increasing reputation. Every Monday, without variation, Mr. Chapman's hounds may be found on Putney Heath and Wimbledon Common; here the *oddity* hunter and *sporting* connoisseur, will find ample scope for rumination upon the versatile opinion of qualifications necessary to form the sportsman; from the *city prig*, who, obtaining a morning's leave of absence from the compting-house, has decorated his person with all the imaginary paraphernalia of the Meynell or Raby hunts, and the more antiquated appearance of his progenitor, accoutred "*cap-a-pee*," with grizzle wig, flannel stockings, and the list of *et ceteras*, so correctly delineated in Shakespeare's

"Sans eyes, sans teeth, sans every thing."

To the above may be added, the harriers at Beddington; Southgate, near Hendon; Finchley, &c. *cum multis aliis*.

The subscription fox hounds (late Calvart's) had some good runs in the month past; in one of which they killed sixteen miles from where they found. Mr. Boldero had a lady in company, who rode the chace, and was *well in* at the death.

The account given in a Morning Paper of the fox hounds crossing his Majesty's harriers, near Maidenhead Thicket, and the King joining the former to the death, was no more than a *fashionable fabrication*, the fox not crossing within a mile of the harriers, nor was the King within a mile of the hounds.

TERRIER BITCH AND PUPPY.

A Bath paper gives the following instance of the sagacity and maternal affection of a terrier bitch, upon the authority of a very respectable tradesman of that city, who vouches for its authenticity:

One day last week Mr. ——— ordered one of the litter of four puppies to be thrown into a pail of water, which was done; it was kept down some time by a mop, and remained in the pail at least *twenty-five minutes*; it was then thrown into the dust-tub and covered with ashes. In two mornings after, the servant discovered that the bitch had still four live puppies, and amongst them was the one which it was supposed was effectually destroyed. It appeared that in the course of the night the dam had raked up her whelp from the ashes, took it to her litter, and probably

probably by means of her own warmth and gentle friction of her tongue, reſtored it to life. It is needleſs to ſay, that the little animal, ſo miraculouſly preſerved, is intended to be reared up. As a proof of the idendity, the three others are black, and are all dogs; this, the only bitch-whelp, is black and white.

THE A—C—N ELOPEMENT.

THE *circles of ſcandal* have at preſent a moſt ample ſubject of diſcuſſion, in a *faſhionable elopement* which took place on Thurſday Nov. 15. The fugitive diſciples of illicit love are, the Marchioneſs of A—, and Captain C——, of the Guards. The injured huſband of the lady is one of the moſt wealthy and dignified noblemen in the land. Previous to his marriage he obtained for her a patent, to take precedent in all places as an Earl's daughter, and their union was formed under the moſt auſpicious circumſtances. She is his ſecond wife, and the match was dictated only by love. They lived in the utmoſt ſplendour, and the brilliancy of their ſtyle was ſo great as to dazzle the eye of the unſuſpecting obſerver, and prevent him from ſeeing through the deluſive veil that made them appear as if cloathed in the amiable robes of domeſtic felicity. The advocates of the frail fair adduce in her behalf the unſubſtantial plea of provocation, as if a lady, under any circumſtance can be juſtified for the commiſſion of a crime, which at once expels honour from her boſom, and depraves her nature. But how ſhall we deſcribe the character of her ſeducer, who, while he pretended the warmeſt friendſhip for her injured lord, of the hoſpitalities of whoſe roof he conſtantly partook, regardleſs of every principle of honour, robbed his friend of his moſt ſacred treaſure, and inflicted a wound more poignant than the dagger's point is capable of effecting. The taſk would be as arduous as the conſideration of his offence is unpleaſant. We therefore leave him to the tortures of his cool reflection, which, if they perform not their duty, we envy him not his feelings.

A morning paper on the ſubject of the above elopement ſays, the Marquis had long ſuſpected his lady, and had not cohabited with her for two years in conſequence. The paper alluded to further ſtates, that the Marchioneſs being pregnant, choſe to be the firſt to avow her adultery to her huſband; and this ſhe did in an interview immediately previous to her elopement. A ſort of calm inſenſible converſation is mentioned to have followed between the parties; the lady, however, was in a ſtate of diſtraction on parting with her children, the eldeſt of whom, very fine girls, are not her's. She told them what had happened, and held up herſelf as a warning to them not to mix in the faſhionable diſſipation of the age, and above all to preſerve their honour.

Captain Copley of the Guards, is nearly related to the Marchioneſs of Abercorn.

MARRIAGE.

THE BRIGHT AND DARK SIDE STATED.

The following paſſage from the new play of "Lovers Vows," (ſee page 35, laſt month) deſerves to be preſented to our readers. At the requeſt of Baron von Wildenhain, the Paſtor waits upon Amelia to ſpeak of Matrimony

in

in general:—She desires him to begin with the disagreeable side, that "the best may be reserved to the last."

PASTOR.

WITH the disagreeable? Oh, madam, when two affectionate congenial hearts unite, the marriage state has then no disagreeable side. Hand in hand the happy pair journey through life; where they find their path occasionally strewed o'er with throns, diligently and chearfully they clear their way. If a stream cross their steps, the stronger bears the weaker over; or, if a rock is to be climbed, the stronger takes the weaker by the hand:—patience and love are their companions. What would be impracticable *to one*, to their *united* efforts proves but sport—and when they have reached the summit, the weaker wipes the sweat from the brows of her more vigorous partner. Their joys, their pains, are never divided guests, nor will one ever experience a pang of sorrow while transport warms the bosom of the other. A smile illuminates the countenance of both; or tears distil from both their eyes. But their raptures are more lively and ecstatic than single unparticipated joy; their sorrow less corroding than solitary woes; for participation enhances the one, and alleviates the other. Thus their whole life resembles a beautiful summer's day; beautiful, even though a transient shower may intervene: for showers refresh the face of nature, and the sun bursts from the cloud with renovating lustre. And when the evening of their day draws on, it finds them surrounded with flowers, which they themselves have planted and rared, patiently awaiting the approach of night.—Then, then, indeed—for night will come—the one takes the lead and first lies down to sleep, and happy *that* one to whose lot it falls:—the survivor wanders in melancholy solitude, weeping at not being allowed to sleep also.—And this is the only disagreeable feature of such a marriage.

AMELIA.—Oh I will marry!

PASTOR.—Right madam, this picture is alluring; but recollect that it is a picture for which two loving and congenial hearts sat as the models. But if motives of mere convenience (what the world generally terms prudence) if parental authority, rashness, or caprice, tie the bonds of hymen, then, alas! the state of matrimony has *no* agreeable side. No longer free and unshackled man and woman walk with light and airy steps, but, victims of a late repentance, drag along their galling chains. Satiety is depicted on each brow. Images of lost happiness, painted in strong colours by imagination's delusive hand, and more tempting in proportion as they are unattainable.

Sanguine and romantic hopes, which haply might never have been realized if this marriage had not taken place, but the practicability of which the mind holds certain, if the parties were not fettered by wedlock. The ideas incessantly harrass the soul, and condemns them to actual suffering, where otherwise patience only would have been carried into exertion. Gradually they accustom themselves to contemplate their irksome companion as the hateful cause of all the evils which befal them. Gall infuses itself into their conversation, coldness into their caresses. To none are they more captious—from none more apt to take offence, than from their wedded partner; and what would yield them delight in a stranger, is viewed with apathy in the person of their nearest connection. In this manner, with averted face and downcast eyes, the hapless pair drag on through life, till at length one

one lies down to sleep:—then exultingly the survivor lifts the head, and triumphantly exclaims, "Liberty! Liberty!"—And this forms the ONLY pleasing feature of such a marriage.

AMELIA.—I will not marry!

LAW REPORTS.

COURT OF KING'S BENCH, NOV. 28.

BOWES *v.* DONALDSON.

MR. Const on a former day had obtained a rule to shew cause why the proceedings in this case should not be staid on the defendant (who is one of the Messengers of the Commissioners of Bankrupts) delivering over a horse and six pigs to Mr. Andrew Robinson Bowes (the plaintiff). These animals had been seized in consequence of a commission of bankruptcy having been issued against him. But that commission being now superseded, Mr. Bowes had a right to have his property restored. The messenger offered to return it, but he refused to accept of it.

Mr. Erskine shewed cause against the rule; and among other things stated, that Mr. Bowes had paid seven hundred and fifty pounds for the horse; that he made considerable sums by him as a racer and stallion, and that he had lately been offered two hundred pounds for him. He said he was now in bad condition, and was not likely to live many weeks, which was the reason of his refusing to take him back.

Lord Kenyon said, if the horse had been rendered worse since he was seized, the Court would not insist that Mr. Bowes should take him back. His Lordship here asked how many years ago it was since Mr. Bowes had purchased this horse for seven hundred and fifty pounds.

Mr. Const replied, about thirty years ago. This horse had not a single tooth in his head; he could not eat, and therefore they were obliged to feed him on water-gruel. He would probably die on their hands in a few weeks. Mr. Const said it was necessary that he should state one fact. Mr. Bowes had sworn in an affidavit, that the reason he had brought this action was, that his commission might be tried upon it. And when his commission was superseded, they had forgot to mention this action to the Lord Chancellor, who would have stopped it.

Lord Kenyon ordered it to be referred to Mr. Lowten.

HORSES.

COURT OF COMMON PLEAS.

FAGG *v.* LAWD.

This was an action brought to recover the sum of 37l. 3s. 6d. due to the plaintiff for two horses, furnished by him to the defendant. The plaintiff keeps the Bell and Crown Inn, in Holborn. The defendant lives at Warwick. He wrote to the plaintiff to buy him two good horses, such as he would use himself. He bought one, and sent it with one of his own.—The defendant acknowledged the receipt of them by a letter: they were kept about a week by the defendant, when he sent them up to London to the plaintiff, and he not being at home, his servant refused to take them in, and they strayed to the Bell-yard, where they staid some time, and were much damaged by want of proper food.

After hearing counsel on both sides, the jury found a verdict for the plaintiff, for the difference in the price of the first horse, and the expences, amounting together to 9l. 17s. 6d.

THE

THE ART OF ANGLING.

(Continued from page 32.)

JULY.—THE PALMERS.

1. The Badger Fly.
2. The Orange Fly.
3. The Wasp Fly.
4. The Black Palmer.
5. The Black Silver Palmer.
6. The July Dun.

1. Dubbed with the soft brown fur off a badger's skin, warped with red silk, the wings off the dark grey feather of a mallard's feather; the head must be red. This fly is an excellent killer, and in some rivers is taken in March and April.

2. Dubbed with orange coloured wool; the wings off the feather of a black bird's wing; or, dubbed with raw orange silk warped with silk of the same colour, ribbed with gold twist, and a black, or red hackle over all. This fly is taken in June when the May fly is over, in hot gloomy weather, and till the end of this month.

3. Dubbed with brown bears hair, or the fur off a black cat's tail; ribbed with yellow silk; and the wings off the pale feather of a stare's wing.

4. Dubbed with the herl of a copper-coloured peacock's feather, with a black cock's hackle over it.

5. Dubbed the same as the black palmer; ribbed with silver twist, and black hackle over all.

6. Dubbed with the down off a water mouse, mixed with bluish dyed seal's fur, or dubbed with the fur off a mole, mixed with a little martern's fur; warped with ash-coloured silk; the wings off the feather of a blue pigeon's wing. A good killer. The size of the hook No. 9.

AUGUST.—THE PALMERS.

1. The Late Ant Fly.
2. The Fern Fly.
3. The White Palmer.
4. The Hearth Fly.
5. The Pale Blue.
6. The Harry Long Legs.

1. Dubbed with the hair off a cow that is of a blackish brown; warp some red in for the tag of his tail, the wings off the feather of a brown hen. An excellent killer.

2. Dubbed with the fur off a hare's neck of a fern colour; the wings off a darkish grey feather off a mallard's.

3. Dubbed with the white herl off a peacock's feather, and a white hackle over all.

4. Dubbed with the wool off an aged black ewe, mixed with some grey colt's hair; the wings off those of a starling's.

5. Dubbed with very light blue fur, mixed with a little yellow martern's fur, and a blue hackle over all; the wings off the feather of a blue pidgeon. A very killing fly from ten in the morning, till three in the evening. The hook No. 3.

6. Dubbed with darkish bear's hair, mixed with a little blue wool, and a brown hackle over all; or, dubbed with lightish bear's hair mixed with a few hairs of light blue mohair, and a little fox-cub down warped with light grey or pale blue silk, and a dunnish hackle over all; the head made large. Taken chiefly in a cloudy windy day. The hook No. 5.

SEPTEMBER.—THE PALMERS.

1. The Peacock Hackle.
2. The Camel Brown.
3. The Late Badger.
4. The September's Dun.

1. Dubbed with peacock's ruddy herl; warped with green silk, and a red cock's hackle over all.

2. Dubbed with the hair pulled out of the lime of an old wall, warped with red silk, and the wings of the darkish grey feather of a mallard's.

3. Dubbed with the fur off a black badger's ſkin, mixed with the ſofteſt yellow down off a ſanded hog, and the wings off the feather of a dark grey mallard's.

4. Dubbed with the down off a mouſe; warp with ſad aſh-coloured ſilk, and the wings off the dark coloured feather of a ſtare. The hook No. 9.

I have given the reader forty-ſeven of the beſt flies uſed in fly-fiſhing, and what are generally known, with the beſt methods of dubbing them, and which if he pays attention to, and makes his exceptions with judgment, he may in time become to be an excellent fly-fiſher.

As it cannot be expected that a man ignorant of painting, can point out the beauties, or defects of a picture, neither can a *tyro* in fly-fiſhing be ſuppoſed to make a proper ſelection from a liſt of flies, of thoſe that are the beſt calculated for that purpoſe: therefore upon that ſuppoſition, and that he may meet with no impediments to obſtruct his progreſs in attaining that pleaſing art, I will give him a ſelection of the beſt flies from thoſe I have ſet down for his uſe, which if he dubbs after the directions given, and makes proper deviations according to the water he fiſhes in, will undoubtedly kill fiſh in any part of England, or Wales, viz.

THE PALMERS.

5. Great Dun.
6. Dark Brown.
7. Early Bright Brown.
8. Late ditto.
9. Black Gnat.
10. Yellow Dun.
11. Great Whirling Dun.
12. Little ditto.
13. Dun Cut.
14. May fly.
15. Grey Drake.
16. Camlet Fly.
17. Cow Dung Fly.
18. Little Ant Fly.
19. Badger Fly.
20. Fern Fly.
21. Stone Fly.

N. B. There are two ſalmon flies, which are the principal ones, called the Dragon and King's Fiſher about two inches long, which may be made according to fancy, but of the moſt gaudy feathers there are, eſpecially the peacock's, for they will rife at any thing gaudy, and where they are plenty, at Trout flies.

There are likewiſe two moths which I have omitted, great killers about twilight in a ſerene evening, and the humble bee a famous chub killer any time of the day. They are dubbed in the following manner: the brown moth; the wings off the feather of a brown owl, dubbed with light mohair, with a dark grizzle cock's hackle for the legs, and a red head. The white moth; dubbed with the white ſtrands off an oſtrich's feather; wings off the feather of a white pigeon's wing; a white hackle for the legs and a black head. The hooks for both, No. 2.

The humble bee, dubbed with black ſpaniel's fur; a black cock's hackle over that; the tag of the tail to be of a deep orange-colour, and the wings off the feather of a crow's wing. The hook No. 2.

The liſt of flies which I have given the angler, he may depend are the ſtandard for artificial fly-fiſhing; but as I am willing to give him as much ſcope as poſſible, to enable him to become an adept in this pleaſant and ingenious recreation, I here preſent him with a ſecond liſt, which he muſt make uſe of as his experience in artificial fly-fiſhing increaſes; and I dare affirm, that if he makes a judicious application, of this and the former liſt, and obſerves the rules laid down for

for the weather, proper for this ſport, he will never go home with an empty pannier.

The Red-fly,

Comes on about the middle of February, and continues till the end of March; its wings are made artificially of a dark drake's feather; the body of the red part of ſquirrel's fur, with the red hackle of a cock wrapt twice or thrice under the butt of the wing; has four wings, and generally flutters upon the ſurface of the water, which tempts the fiſhes, and makes them take it the more eager: the ſize of hook, No. 6.

The Blue Dun fly,

Comes on the beginning of March, and continues till the middle of April: its wings are made of a feather out of the ſtarling's wing, or the blue feathers that grow under the wing of a duck widgeon; the body is made with the blue fur of a fox, or the blue part of ſquirrel's fur, mixed with a little yellow mohair, and a fine blue cock's hackle wrapt over the body in imitation of the legs; as it ſwims down the water its wings ſtand upright on its back; its tail forked, and of the ſame colour of its wings. It appears on the water about ten o'clock in the forenoon, and continues till about three in the afternoon, but the principal time of the day is from twelve till two, the flies then come down in great quantities, and are always more plentiful in dark, cold, gloomy days, than in bright ſun-ſhiny weather. Your morning's fiſhing, till the flies come on, ſhould be with the worm or minnow; the ſize of the hook this fly is made on, is No. 7, but if the water is very low and fine, No. 8.

The Brown-fly, or Dun-Drake,

Comes on about the middle of March, and continues till the latter end of April: its wings are made off the feather of a pheaſant's wing, which is full of fine ſhade, and exactly reſembles the wing of the fly; the body is made of the bright part of hare's fur, mixed with a little of the red part of ſquirrel's fur, ribbed with yellow ſilk, and a partridge's hackle wrapt over twice or thrice under the butt of the wing: as it ſwims down the water its wings ſtand upright upon its back, its tail is forked, and the colour of its wings; it comes upon the water about eleven o'clock, and continues on till two, appearing on the water in ſhoals or great quantities; in dark gloomy days, at the approach of the leaſt gleam of ſun, it is amazing to ſee in a moment's time, the ſurface of the water almoſt covered over with ten thouſands of thoſe pretty little flying inſects, and the fiſhes riſing and ſporting at them, inſomuch, that you would think the whole river was alive, it is a pleaſing ſight to the angler, and affords him great diverſion; in this manner they appear upon the water every ſucceſſive day, till the end of their duration. The blue dun, and the brown, are both on at the ſame time, the blues are moſt plentiful in cold and dark days, and the browns in warm and gloomy days, though I have often ſeen blues, browns, and granams on at the ſame time, when they have refuſed the other two ſorts, and have taken the browns only; there cannot be too much ſaid in commendation of this fly, both for its duration, and the ſport it affords the angler. The ſize of the hook it is made on, is No. 6.

The Granam-fly, or Green-tail,

Comes on about the beginning of April, if the weather is warm, being a very tender fly, and cannot endure the cold. When they firſt appear on the water, they do

ſo in great quantities, in bright mornings; you may begin to fiſh with them from ſix o'clock in the morning till eleven; then you will find the browns come on, which you muſt uſe, as the fiſh will not touch the granams as long as the browns continue: about five o'clock in the evening you may uſe the granams again with ſucceſs; the browns having then totally diſappeared for that day. The Granam-fly is a four-winged fly; as it ſwims down the water, its wings lie flat on its back, it has a ſmall bunch of eggs of a green colour, which gives it the name of the Green-tail-fly; as ſoon as it lights on the water it drops its eggs; it is of a ſhort duration, not laſting above a week, and then totally diſappears for that year. The wings are made from a feather out of the wing of a partridge, or pheaſant, which is ſhaded like the wing of the fly; the body is made of the fur from a hare's face, or ear, and a grizzled hackle of a cock wrapt under the butt of the wings: the hook, No. 8.

The Spider-fly,

Comes on about the twentieth of April, if the weather is warm, and continues on about a fortnight: they are bred in beds of gravel by the water ſide, where you may find them in bunches engendering, to prepare for their protection the next year: in cold and ſtormy days they hide themſelves in the gravel, not being able to endure cold. You may fiſh with it from ſun-riſe, till ſun-ſet; being a very killing fly, too much cannot be ſaid in its praiſe. The wings are made from a woodcock's feather, out of the butt of the wing; the body of lead-coloured ſilk, with a black cock's hackle wrapt twice or thrice under the wings. This fly cannot be made too fine; the hook, No. 8, or 9.

The Black Caterpillar,

Comes on about the beginning of May, and continues on about a fortnight, and is to be fiſhed with after hot ſun-ſhiny mornings; if winds and clouds appear, they then grow weak for want of the ſun, and fall upon the waters in great quantities. The wings are made from a feather out of a jay's wing, the body of an oſtrich's feather, which is preferable to the plover's, and a fine black-cock's hackle wrapt over the body. It is a very killing fly in ſmall brooks: the hook, No. 7.

The Little Iron-Blue-Fly,

Comes on about the ſeventh of May, and continues on till the middle of June. In cold ſtormy days they come down the waters in great quantities, but in warm days there are few to be ſeen; as it ſwims down the water its wings ſtand upright on its back; its tail is forked, and the colour of its wings: it is a neat curious fly, and cannot be made too fine, it is to be fiſhed with from about eleven o'clock in the forenoon, till three in the afternoon. When theſe flies are on, the fiſhes refuſe every other ſort and take theſe only, every ſort of fiſh being fond of them. The wings are made from a cormorant's feather that grows under the wing, or off the feather of a dark-blue-hen that grows on the body under the wings; the body is made of water-rats fur, ribbed with yellow ſilk, and a ſutty blue hackle of a cock wrapt over the body: the hook, No. 8, or 9.

The Yellow Sally Fly,

Comes on about the twentieth of May, and continues on till about the tenth or twelfth of June. It is a four-winged fly, as it ſwims down the water its wings lie flat on its back. The wings are made with a yellow cock's hackle, and the body of martern's fur taken from

from the spots under the jaws, which is a fine yellow. It is one of those flies that prepare the fish to look for the May-fly, or Green-drake. The hook, No. 7.

(*To be continued.*)

A PHILOSOPHICAL AND PRACTICAL TREATISE ON HORSES, AND ON THE MORAL DUTIES OF MAN TOWARDS THE BRUTE CREATION,

BY JOHN LAWRENCE,

2 vols. 8vo. boards, 14s. *Longman.*

(*Continued from page* 20.)

HAVING in our last, concluded in the middle of a paragraph, we shall proceed from that paragraph in the present extract.

"We observe too much delicacy and pliability of sinew, with too little bone and substance, in great numbers of those horses destined to quick draft. The legs of such will scarce ever accompany the carcase in a proportional share of labour over turnpike roads. As to the refuse of our studs of race-horses, it consists usually of a parcel of half-got, delicate, weak, spider-legged creatures, which it is a misery to see applied to any labour whatever. Our grand *desideratum* now is, substance well placed, which ensures both power and action; a deep and well-proportioned frame; to support these through the piece, bone under the knee, and tough feet.

It will be no difficult matter, to assign sufficient reasons, why horses of the above valuable description are not more plentiful among us, or rather one reason alone will suffice. We owe our defects to a total absence of all regular principles in our general breeding system. The reader will perceive, that I leave out of the question the few judicious and intelligent breeders, from whose laudable exertions, at different periods, we owe all that is valuable in our various races of horses. The business of stock-breeding, which is properly scientific, and therefore requires the aid of philosophy and reflection, is from necessity, as it should seem, the far greater part of it, in the hands of the most ignorant and untutored, perhaps the most prejudiced and obstinate of mankind. It is a mere chance-medley affair. Does a countryman wish to breed a horse? His solicitude and attention, seldom extend farther than to the size of the animals he chooses for that purpose; provided they be high enough, large enough, and at hand, the business is done; the species, and conformation of the mare in particular, and her aptitude for the intended purpose, are considerations which seldom occur; or if they do, are usually thrown aside, as if they really bore no relation whatever to the question. Now this happen to be the most important point of all others, without recurring to the general idea of the superior consequence of the female in the affair of procreation; for granting the stallion to be thorough shaped and proper, (and it is much likelier for a common breeder to find a good stallion, than to possess a good brood mare) yet if the mare be defective and faulty, there can be no just reason to expect the produce will be perfect. Not a few of our horses clearly evince, by their appearance, the probability of inheriting their numerous defects, both from sire and dam. I am sorry to remark, that these strictures, not only apply to our general run of casual breeders throughout the country, but in a great measure also, to the considerable ones of the northern, usually styled the breeding counties; and the

the reader will find these sentiments confirmed in the Yorkshire Tour of the elegant and enlightened Mr. Marshall.

It results from these premises, that our intelligent breeders have brought the horses of this country to a sufficient, or rather perhaps to the highest degree of perfection. The finest models of all denominations, both for beauty and use, are to be found in England. All that is now wanted, is a transfer of the bulk of the business of the stud, from ignorant to intelligent hands; the certain consequence of which fortunate change would be, as great a plenty, as there is now a scarcity of good horses. There are, it is true, a formidable host of discouraging circumstances in the train of the best concerted breeding plan, even where there is an ample range of proper land. The capital required to go into it, to any extent, is considerable; the requisite attention great and constant; for it is a business which often fails from being trusted intirely to ignorant grooms; to reflect upon the distant period to which a man must attend the reward of his labour and expence, and that after all, he may purchase horses at much less cost than he can breed them, is disheartening. It is indeed true, that the breeders of a great part of our horses are not reimbursed the cost; of which they would be convinced, were they in the habits of calculation. But that objection is of no validity against capital stock, which must inevitably, for a series of years to come, command an adequate price; and if we take into the question the universal destruction of horses throughout the whole continent, occasioned by the present most cruel and disastrous war, and that they must be, in part at least, recruited from hence, I think it may be very safely pronounced, that at no former period, was the prospect of breeding so inviting as at the present moment.

Various complaints have been made against the too great number of horses bred in England, which I believe to be totally groundless, on any account, as far as relates to horses intended for the saddle, and quick draft; for which no other animals can be placed in substitution; as to cart-horses (the least useful of the species) such complaints are certainly just.

Of the Horses of foreign countries, I have a right to say but little from my own experience; and the relations of travellers, and of those who have improved upon them, are intituled to little dependance, since none of them, that I can discover, were good jockies. The celebrated Mr. Bruce, who plumes himself upon his ignorance of the turf, tells us of an excellent race of horses, which he found at Sennaar, sixteen hands high, at four years old; if they continue to grow in that country, as long as with us, they must be, no doubt, stately animals at six; only somewhat difficult to mount. It is pretty generally agreed, however, of that traveller, that he was given to make use of the common privilege; to which, if we add his acknowledged want of skill in horses, we shall be justified in subtracting somewhat from his account of the height of those at Sennaar.

Dr. Russel, in his natural history of Aleppo, gives us as particular and satisfactory an account of the horses of the circumjacent countries, as could be expected; and no doubt a just one, as far as it goes. He describes the Turkish horses of a large make, and martial appearance; the Arabs more slender, and less shewy, but beautifully turned, more swift, and more hardy. The Syrians he commends for their beauty and goodness; and also for that remarkable gentleness of nature,

ture, familiarity with man, and docility, for which the Arabians are so distinguished; the consequence, in some measure, no doubt, of that humanity and kindness, with which they are treated by their masters.

The Eastern countries are seldom the theatre of change or improvement; and their horses, it may be fairly presumed, are much the same, in all respects, as in ancient times. Arabia, Persia, Syria, Egypt, Barbary, still continue the chief breeding countries, whence India, Turkey, and various other parts, are supplied.

I have never seen but one Spanish horse; he was a chesnut, sixteen hands high, very much resembling our Yorkshire half bred horses, which are applied to the purpose of getting coach cattle, and strong nags. This horse was represented to me as of the best race in Spain, but evidently shewed to be of a mixed breed, his head being ill set on, and his shape, in general, irregular; his shoulder was tolerably well placed, his legs flat, and feet very good. As to the famed Andalusian horses, and the jennets of Spain, I can find no account of them, but in old books, or late writers, who appear to have copied from them.

Although there always have been, and I suppose are at present, considerable breeding studs in Germany, and in different parts of Europe, it does not appear that any great improvements have been effected; on the contrary, in some European countries the horses have degenerated, or they are eclipsed by the superior fame of those of England. A Treatise on the different Studs of Europe, was published by M. Fluzard, in 1788. I have not seen the book, but I must own my expectations from it are not very sanguine: all that I have read upon the subject, either in French, or from the Italian, being chiefly a repetition of the exploded notions, and practices of former times, with some few additional particulars, which, if new, are not a whit more to the purpose.

Of the present state of the coursers, war-horses, and coach horses of Naples, formerly so celebrated, I know nothing.

The Germans and Swiss, are represented to me as a heavy, misshappen race, not remarkably well-fitted for any purpose. The Hungarians, and those bordering on the Eastern countries, no doubt partake in a degree, of the symmetry, speed, and goodness of the horses of Asia; but I have often remarked a singular deviation of nature from her general rule, in horses bred in Germany, and in different parts of the continent of Europe; they have appeared well-proportioned with the undoubted marks of oriental origin, or what we term blood; and yet, on trial, have exhibited no proofs of the characteristic property—speed.

The horses of France, although generally inferior hitherto, will, I conceive, one day, equal our own in all respects. There is every thing in the soil and climate of that great and glorious country to warrant such a supposition. The attempts made by their sporting nobility a few years past, to breed racers, ill-judged and ill-directed as they generally were, yet evidently proved their ability to rival us upon the turf; and the readiest mode the convention can now adopt, to raise a superior breed of horses, for all purposes (an object which they have much at heart) is to give encouragement to the noble and rational diversion of horse-racing. The horses of Normandy are, at present, as I am informed, by a military friend, who served in France until the execution of the king, upon an equality with the general

general run of our own. He describes them as bearing a resemblance to the stock of Eclipse, chesnut, with a blaze in the face, and white legs behind; good trotters, active, hardy, and well fitted for the troop. They travelled, it seems, sometimes on their marches, seventy and eighty miles per day.

The countries upon the Baltic produce active, hardy, clean-limbed saddle horses, perhaps an original race, without any mixture of Asiatic blood. Such as I have seen from Norway, were dun-coloured, small, but thick-set, and very well shaped. I have known good stock raised from Norway mares, and our bred horses. I have heard of capital trotters, and of good size, in Sweden and Russia.

In the vast plains of South America, where European industry and tyranny have not yet penetrated, it is well known there are numerous herds of wild horses, in the original state of nature. These have increased to their present numbers, from a few put on shore by the Spaniards, more than two centuries ago. Although the produce of Spanish stock, formerly held in such high estimation, they are represented by those who have seen them of late years, as small, thick-headed, and ill-shaped. I have my doubts of the existence of wild horses, in any other part of the world.

Our brethren of the United States of North America, well aware of the consequence of this excellent animal to the interests, and the comforts of human society, have been, for a number of years, taking the proper steps to replenish their extensive and fertile regions with a race of horses worthy of them. They have occasionally imported some of the best bred stallions and mares, from this country. The famous Shark, which was perhaps, after Childers and Eclipse, the best horse that ever ran over English ground, which beat all the horses of his time, both speedy and stout, each at their own game, and won his owner twenty thousand guineas, has for some years continued to stock the plains of Virginia with high racing blood. I am credibly informed, that a noble lord of great celebrity in the annals of the turf, offered ten thousand guineas for this famous horse, the day on which he was finally withdrawn from his labours, covered with the honours of the course. In the Jersies, Tallyho, a son of Highflyer, and several well-bred horses, cover with great success, and to the considerable emoulment of their owners. A sporting friend of mine, who was in America during the late unfortunate war, described their saddle-horses, as a light, spider-legged, sickle-hammed race, with much more activity than lasting goodness, resembling the worst of our half-breds. Brissot, who travelled those countries afterwards, and mentions the great exertions of their stages upon the road, extending sometimes to ninety-six miles in a day, seems to think their horses inadequate in strength, and that the care bestowed upon them, and the keep, are by no means sufficient. But there can be no doubt, that the late great emigrations from Yorkshire, with some of the best cattle, will also import into America, the just and generous stable-economy of old England.

The few hacks and hunters of Ireland, which have come under my observation, appeared to me to vary no otherwise from English-bred horses, than that they were somewhat more slim, and sharper built; perhaps they have naturally a little more fire. The following account of the present state of Equestrian affairs in Ireland, I received in April, 1796, from a man who has had more than forty years

experience

ence in horſes; and who had returned the preceding week from Dublin, where he had reſided a conſiderable time, as an aſſiſtant at one of the horſe repoſitories. "They have few or none of thoſe large cart-horſes ſo common in this country; thoſe they have, for the moſt part, ill-ſhaped, looſe, and leggy. Their ſaddle-horſes naturally as good as ours; but, in general, poorly kept, worſe groomed, and ſtill worſe ſhod. In the latter reſpect, they are thirty years behind us; the feet of their hacks, even in Dublin, being torn to pieces by weight of iron, and nails like ſkewers. Their hunters the higheſt leapers in the world, being trained to it from their being firſt bitted. Prices conſiderably under ours; good coaching-like nags, and chapmens' horſes, being ſold at the repoſitories for ten or twelve pounds each. They excel even the good people of England, in anticipating the ſtrength of their horſes, and wearing them out early; and deem them aged at the ſixth year. Their hay ill-made, ſpoiled by ſtanding too long before the graſs is cut, and afterwards, by not being ſtacked. It is carried looſe to market. General want of induſtry among the Iriſh, and the rage of ſetting up for *Jontlemen*, ſo univerſal and contagious, that no ſooner has a man acquired a few hundred pounds, by the exertion of an unfaſhionable induſtry, than he ſcorns to turn his attention to any thing farther, than the readieſt means of ſpending it. Freight of horſes to Park-gate, two guineas each."

I intreat the good citizens of Ireland, to excuſe my detailing the above unfavourable particulars, and to obſerve, that I ſpeak merely from the report of another. If the picture be falſe or overcharged (which my partiality for the gallant character of the Iriſh makes me anxiouſly wiſh), they will paſs it over with a forbearing ſmile; if in any reſpect true, their ſerious reflections upon it, will prove the firſt ſtep towards amendment.

(*To be continued.*)

ON THE FIRST NIGHT'S REPRESENTATION OF MR. COBB'S NEW OPERA.

COVENT GARDEN THEATRE.

A New Comic Opera, called *Ramah Droog*, or *Wine does Wonder*, written by Mr. Cobb, was performed on Monday night, November the 12th, for the firſt time. The principal characters are thus repreſented:—

EUROPEANS.

Sidney	Mr. Incledon.
Liffey	Mr. Johnstone.
Firſt Priſoner	Mr. Clermont.
Eliza	Miſs Mitchell.
Margaret	Mrs. Mills.

INDIANS.

The Rajah	Mr. Emery.
Zemaun	Mr. H. Johnstone.
Chellingoe	Mr. Munden.
Holkar	Mr. Townsend.
Govinda	Mr. Hill.
Indian Officer	Mr. Linton.
Alminah	Mrs. Chapman.
Zelma	Miſs Waters.
Agra	Miſs Sims.
Orſona	Miſs Gray.

The ſcene lies in India, and near Malabar.—The buſineſs of the piece is as follows:—

Troops are ſent from a Britiſh ſettlement in India againſt an Uſurper who has deſtroyed the rightful Rajah, or Prince of the country, in which the fortreſs of *Ramah Droog* is ſituated.

The troops are marched in two detachments by different routs; one detachment is ſurprized and ſurrounded by the Indians in a narrow paſs, and after a gallant defence, are obliged to ſurrender. *Sidney*, their commander, ſeeing all is loſt, entruſts

entrusts to the care of *Serjeant Liffey*, his wife *Eliza*, who has accompanied him in the disguise of an Indian servant. They escape from the battle and conceal themselves in a neighbouring wood, till want of food obliges them to surrender themselves as prisoners to some tiger hunters, who carry them to *Ramah Droog*.

Liffey, afraid of being known for a soldier, passes for a European physician, and *Eliza* for his servant. Arrived at Ramah Droog, he is immediately employed to prescribe for the *Rajah*, who is taken suddenly ill; not knowing what to prescribe, he resolves to let the sick man take his chance, and gives him, as a harmless medicine, the only remains of his provisions, being a potatoe found in his knapsack. The *Rajah*, immediately recovers, it being discovered that his illness has arisen from being intoxicated with claret, found among the stores of the British prisoners; charmed with the supposed skill of his European physician, the *Rajah* appoints him to fill the highest offices of the state.

The Princess *Alminah*, the daughter of the *Rajah*, conceives a violent passion for *Sidney*, and offers him his liberty, and to accompany him in his flight. On his rejecting her offer, and *Alminah* discovering, by a blunder of *Liffey's*, that *Eliza* is *Sidney's* wife, she vows his destruction.

Zelma, the daughter of the late *Rajah*, has been saved from the general massacre of her family by the Prince *Zemaun*, native of a distant part of Hindostan, who guards her in her confinement.

Margaret, the wife of *Liffey*, who also accompanied the first detachment, dressed as a soldier, is released from her captivity by *Zemaun*, and sent by him to meet the second British detachment, who are in the neighbourhood.

She meets the detachment, and on her return sees *Chellingoe*, the chief prison keeper, whom she obliges, with a pistol at his breast, to conduct her into the fort. This gives her an opportunity of releasing *Eliza* and *Zemaun*, who, with *Liffey*, make their escape from the fortress, carrying the *Rajah* with them. They join the British detachment, who scale the rock and surprise the fort by night, and after some resistance carry the place. The Captives are released, the Usurper deposed, *Zelma* the rightful Princess, is raised to the throne, and united with the Prince *Zemaun*.

The first objects that attract our attention in the representation of this piece, are the scenery and the dresses. The ingenuity, beauty, and magnificence of these surpass every thing of a similar description that we have for many years witnessed.

The principal scenes are a view in the fortress of *Ramah Droog*, the British captives on one side, the walls of the Palace Gardens on the other—a distant view of the hill fort of Ramah Droog—an apartment in the Rajah's Palace, the women and Zenana dancing and singing—the battlements on the rock—an apartment in the Palace—a splendid procession as follows:—The Rajah on an elephant, returning from hunting the tiger, preceded by his Harcarrahs, or Military Messengers, and his State Palanquin. The Vizier on another elephant—the Princess in a gaurie, drawn by Buffaloes. The Rajah is attended by his Fakeer, or Soothsayer—his Officers of State, and by an Ambassador from Tippoo Sultaun, in a Palanquin; also by Nairs, or soldiers, from the South of India—Poligars, or inhabitants of the hilly districts, with their hunting dogs—other Indians, carrying a dead tiger, and young tigers in a cage, a number of sepoys—musicians on camels and on foot—dancing girls, &c. The other principal

principal scenes are, a private apartment belonging to the Vizier—a wood near the Pattah, or town, at the foot of the rock—*Zelma's* prison—and the outside of the fort: the whole forming an exhibition of the utmost grandeur, occasionally diversified with scenes delightfully picturesque.—The expence attending their construction and decoration must have been immense; but the piece bids fair to become so attractive, that we have no doubt of the liberality of the manager meeting a proper return from the attention of the public.

Its literary merits, although by no means corresponding with its decorative brilliancy, are, nevertheless, entitled to respectful mention. There is some sprightly equivoque, and the Irish pleasantries of Johnstone frequently enliven the scene, and convulse the audience with laughter. The dialogue is certainly not of the first description of writing; but it forms, on the whole, a very safe vehicle for some of the best music the English stage has for some time been able to boast. It is the joint production of Mazzinghi and Reeve, and does infinite credit to their taste, and talents.

The Opera, although the time of its representation was at least an hour and a half too long, went off with universal *eclat* to the dropping of the curtain. It must of course be greatly curtailed, and the pruning knife judiciously applied, will not fail to improve the interest of the piece, while it brings it within the usual compass of dramatic representations. It was announced for repetition with reiterated bursts of applause.

The performers, both male and female, exerted their respective talents to the greatest advantage.—It was Miss Waters's first appearance, and a more promising essay we have never witnessed. This lady possesses a fine clear voice, equally adapted to dialogue and song: her delivery is excellent, and as a singer, she bids fair to arrive at the first rank of the profession: she gave the airs allotted to her with the utmost sweetness and taste, and in one of them was deservedly encored. Her person is elegantly neat, and gracefully formed, and her features very handsome.—She was received on her *entrée* with the wonted kindness and attention of the audience, and universally applauded throughout.

The house was crowded in every part.

To the Editors *of the* Sporting Magazine.

GENTLEMEN,

PROBABLY the following essay on the antiquity of Cock-fighting, may be agreeable to your numerous readers; I have therefore sent it, that it may, if you think proper, be inserted in the next number of your justly admired miscellany.

I am, Gentlemen,

Your humble Servant,

And old Correspondent,

J. J. B.

Men have long availed themselves of the antipathy one cock shews to another, and have encouraged that natural hatred, with arts that disgrace human reason. The origin of this sport is said to be derived from the Athenians, on the following occasion:—When Themistocles was marching his army against the Persians, he, by the way, espying two cocks fighting, caused his army to behold them. "Behold these do not fight for their household gods,

 for

for the monuments of their ancestors, not for glory, not for liberty, nor for the safety of their children, but only because the one will not give way unto the other." This so encouraged the Grecians, that they fought strenuously, and obtained the victory over the Persians, upon which Cock fighting was, by a particular law, ordained to be annually practised by the Athenians.

Though the ancient Greeks piqued themselves on their politeness, calling other nations barbarous, yet Mr. Pegge has proved clearly, by a treatise published in the third volume of the Archelogia, that they were the authors of this cruel and inhuman mode of diversion. The inhabitants of Delos were great lovers of this sport, and Tamagra, a city of Bælotia, the isle of Rhodes Chalcis, in Eulæa, and the country of Media, were famous for their generous and magnanimous race of chickens. It appears they had some method of preparing the birds for battle. Cock-fighting was an institution, partly political, at Athens, and was continued there for the purpose of improving the seeds of valour in the minds of their youths.—But it was afterwards perverted and abused, both there and in other parts of Greece, to a common pastime and amusement, without any moral, political, or religious intention, and as it is now followed and practised amongst us. It appears that the Romans, who borrowed this, as well as many other things, from Greece, used quails as well as cocks for fighting. The first cause of contention between the two brothers, Bassianus and Geta, sons of the Emperor Septimius Severus, happened, according to Herodian, in their youth about fighting their quails and cocks. Cocks and quails, fitted for the purpose of engaging one another in the last gasp for diversion, are frequently compared in the Roman writers, and with much propriety, to gladiators. The fathers of the church inveigh with great warmth against the spectacles of the arena—the wanton shedding of human blood in sport. One would have thought that with this, Cock-fighting would also have been discarded, under the mild and humane genius of Christianity; but it was reserved for this enlightened era, to practice it with new and aggravating circumstances of cruelty. The Shrove Tuesday massacre is now, indeed, abolished; but that monstrous barbarity, the battle-royal and the Welch-main, still continue amongst us—a striking disgrace to the manly character of Britons.

It is probable that Cock-fighting was first introduced into this island by the Romans. The bird itself was here before Cæsar's arrival.

William Fitz Stephen, who wrote the life of Becket, in the reign of Henry II, is the first of our writers who mentions Cocking, describing it as the sport of school-boys on Shrove Tuesday. The theatre (the cock-pit) it seems was the school, and the master was the comptroller and director of the sport; from this time at least the diversion, however absurd, and even impious, was continued amongst us. It was followed, though disapproved and prohibited (39 Edward III); also in the reign of Henry VIII. and A. D. 1569. It has by some been called a royal diversion, and every one knows the cock-pit at Whitehall was erected by a crowned head, for the more magnificent celebrating of the sport. It was prohibited, however, by one of Oliver's acts, March 31, 1654.

CALCULATION OF THE ODDS AND CHANCES OF COCKING ARITHMETICALLY INVESTGATED.

(*Continued from page* 25.)

22 Battles running,	are	4194303 to 1	
21 out of 22	are	182360 to 1	
20 out of 22	are	16512 to 1	
19 out of 22	are	2336 to 1	
18 out of 22	are	459 to 1	
17 out of 22	are	117 to 1	
16 out of 22	are	37 to 1	
15 out of 22	are	$13\frac{3}{4}$ to 1	
14 out of 22	are	$5\frac{49}{50}$ to 1	very near 6 to 1
13 out of 22	are	$2\frac{4}{5}$ to 1	or 14 to 5
12 out of 22	are	$1\frac{2}{5}$ to 1	or 7 to 5
11 and 11 or even battles in 22	are	$4\frac{14}{15}$ to 1	near 5 to 1

21 Battles running,	are	2097151 to 1	
20 out of 21	are	95324 to 1	
19 out of 21	are	9038 to 1	
18 out of 21	are	1341 to 1	
17 out of 21	are	276 to 1	
16 out of 21	are	74 to 1	
15 out of 21	are	24 to 1	
14 out of 21	are	$9\frac{1}{2}$ to 1	
13 out of 21	are	$4\frac{1}{5}$ to 1	
12 out of 21	are	2 to 1	

20 Battles running,	are	1048575 to 1	
19 out of 20	are	49931 to 1	
18 out of 20	are	4968 to 1	
17 out of 20	are	775 to 1	
16 out of 20	are	168 to 1	
15 out of 20	are	47 to 1	
14 out of 20	are	$16\frac{1}{3}$ to 1	
13 out of 20	are	$6\frac{1}{2}$ to 1	
12 out of 20	are	$2\frac{9}{10}$ to 1	near 3 to 1
11 out of 20	are	4 to 3	
10 and 10 or even battles in 20	are	$4\frac{2}{3}$ to 1	or 14 to 3

19 Battles running,	are	524287 to 1	
18 out of 19	are	26213 to 1	
17 out of 19	are	2743 to 1	
16 out of 19	are	450 to 1	
15 out of 19	are	103 to 1	
14 out of 19	are	30 to 1	
13 out of 19	are	$10\frac{6}{10}$ to 1	near 11 to 1
12 out of 19	are	$4\frac{1}{2}$ to 1	
11 out of 19	are	25 to 12	little better than 2 to 1

18 Bat-

18 Battles running,	are	262143	to 1
17 out of 18	are	13796	to 1
16 out of 18	are	1523	to 1
15 out of 18	are	264	to 1
14 out of 18	are	63	to 1
13 out of 18	are	$19\frac{3}{4}$	to 1
12 out of 18	are	$7\frac{1}{3}$	to 1
11 out of 18	are	$3\frac{1}{7}$	to 1
10 out of 18	are	7	to 5
9 and 9 or even battles in 18	are	$4\frac{1}{3}$	to 1 or 13 to 3

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17 Battles running,	are	131071	to 1
16 out of 17	are	7280	to 1
15 out of 17	are	850	to 1
14 out of 17	are	156	to 1
13 out of 17	are	39	to 1
12 out of 17	are	$12\frac{9}{10}$	to 1
11 out of 17	are	5	to 1
10 out of 17	are	$2\frac{1}{6}$	to 1 or 13 to 6

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16 Battles running,	are	65535	to 1
15 out of 16	are	3854	to 1
14 out of 16	are	477	to 1
13 out of 16	are	93	to 1
12 out of 16	are	25	to 1
11 out of 16	are	$8\frac{1}{2}$	to 1
10 out of 16	are	$3\frac{1}{3}$	to 1 or 10 to 3
9 out of 16	are	7	to 5
9 and 9 or even battles in 16	are	$4\frac{1}{11}$	to 1 little better than 4 to 1

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15 Battles running,	are	32767	to 1
14 out of 15	are	2047	to 1
13 out of 15	are	269	to 1
12 out of 15	are	55	to 1
11 out of 15	are	$15\frac{3}{4}$	to 1
10 out of 15	are	$5\frac{1}{2}$	to 1
9 out of 15	are	9	to 4

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14 Battles running,	are	16383	to 1
13 out of 14	are	1091	to 1
12 out of 14	are	153	to 1
11 out of 14	are	34	to 1
10 out of 14	are	10	to 1
9 out of 14	are	$3\frac{2}{3}$	to 1 or 11 to 3
8 out of 14	are	3	to 2
7 and 7 or even battles in 14	are	$3\frac{3}{4}$	to 1 or 15 to 4

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13 Battles running,	are	8191	to 1
12 out of 13	are	584	to 1
11 out of 13	are	88	to 1
10 out of 13	are	20	to 1
9 out of 13	are	$6\frac{1}{2}$	to 1
8 out of 13	are	7	to 3

12 Battles running, are	4095 to 1	
11 out of 12 are	314 to 1	
10 out of 12 are	50 to 1	
9 out of 12 are	$12\frac{2}{3}$ to 1	
8 out of 12 are	$4\frac{1}{7}$ to 1	or 29 to 7
7 out of 12 are	3 to 2	
6 and 6 or even battles in 12, are	$3\frac{1}{3}$ to 1	or 10 to 3

11 Battles running, are	2047 to 1	
10 out of 11 are	169 to 1	
9 out of 11 are	29 to 1	
8 out of 11 are	$7\frac{4}{5}$ to 1	or 39 to 5
7 out of 11 are	$2\frac{1}{2}$ to 1	or 5 to 2

10 Battles running, are	1023 to 1	
9 out of 10 are	92 to 1	
8 out of 10 are	$17\frac{1}{4}$ to 1	
7 out of 10 are	$4\frac{5}{4}$ to 1	or 24 to 5
6 out of 10 are	13 to 8	
5 and 5 or even battles in 10 are	$3\frac{1}{16}$ to 1	little better than 3 to 1

9 Battles running, are	511 to 1	
8 out of 9 are	50 to 1	
7 out of 9 are	10 to 1	
6 out of 9 are	$2\frac{61}{65}$ to 1	near 3 to 1

8 Battles running, are	255 to 1	
7 out of 8 are	27 to 1	
6 out of 8 are	$5\frac{34}{37}$ to 1	near 6 to 1
5 out of 8 are	7 to 4	
4 and 4, or even battles in 8 are	$2\frac{23}{35}$ to 1	or 13 to 5

7 Battles running, are	127 to 1	
6 out of 7 are	15 to 1	
5 out of 7 are	$3\frac{1}{3}$ to 1	or 10 to 3

6 Battles running, are	63 to 1	
5 out of 6 are	$8\frac{1}{7}$ to 1	or 57 to 7
4 out of 6 are	21 to 11	
3 and 3 or even battles in 6 are	11 to 5	

5 Battles running, are	31 to 1	
4 out of 5 are	$4\frac{1}{3}$ to 1	or 26 to 6
4 Battles running, are	15 to 1	
3 out of 4 are	11 to 5	

2 and 2 or even battles in 4 are	5 to 3	
3 battles running, are	7 to 1	
2 battles running, are	3 to 1	

(*To be continued.*)

THE

THE GAME OF TENNIS.

THE usual extent of a Tennis Court is about 96 feet in length, and 33 in breadth. It is divided into two equal parts by a net over which the ball must be struck, to have any advantageous effects to the players. When you enter a court, there is a long gallery covered with a pent-house, that must be passed before the *dedans* is reached. This latter place the spectators and betters usually remain in, whilst a match is playing. The passage is divided into different compartments, which are styled galleries. From the line towards the *dedans* is the first gallery, the door second gallery, and the last gallery, which is called the service side. From the *dedans* to the last gallery the figures 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, are inscribed at a good distance, each which mark the chances that constitute one of the most essential parts of the game. On the other side of the line is the first gallery; door second gallery, and last gallery. This is called the hazard side. Every ball played into the last gallery, on this side, tells for a certain stroke, the same as into the *dedans*. Between the second and last gallery are the figuers 1, 2, marking the chances on the hazard side. Over this long gallery, as was previously mentioned, is the pent-house, upon which the service is given to begin the set; and if the player misses striking the ball, so as to rebound from the pent-house over a certain line, it is styled a *fault*, two of which amount to the loss of a stroke. If the ball passes round the pent-house, on the opposite side of the court, and falls beyond a particular described line, it is called *passe*, reckons for nothing, and the player must again serve.

Upon the right side of the court from the *dedans*, a part of the wall projects more than the rest, in order to variegate the strokes, and make them more difficult to be returned, which is called the *tambour*, alluding to the effect of a drum. The grill is a kind of window in the right-hand corner of the hazard side: when the ball is lodged here, it is reckoned a determinate stroke without depending upon chaces.

The usual set of Tennis consists of six games; but when an advantage set is played, two successive games above five must be won to decide it; or when it becomes six games all, two additional games must be won, without intermission to determine the set.

Upon the player's giving the first service, his adversary must return the ball wherever it falls after the first rebound. Example; if at the first figure 1, the chace is called at a yard, that is to say, a yard from the *dedans*, the chace remains till a second service is given; and if the player on the service side lets the ball go after his adversary returns it, and if the ball falls on or between any of these figures, the players change sides, as the first player will then be on the hazard side to play for the first chace, which, if he wins by striking the ball, so as to fall, after its first rebound nearer to the *dedans* than the figure 1, without his adversary's being able to return it from its first rebound, he wins a stroke, and proceeds in like manner to win a second stroke, &c. If a ball falls on a line with the first gallery, door second gallery, or last gallery, the chace is called at such a place, naming the gallery, &c. When it is just put over the line, it is called a chace at the line. If the player on the service side returns a ball with such force as to strike the wall on the hazard side, so as to rebound after the first hop over the line, it is also called a chace at the line.

The hazard-side chaces arise from the

the ball being returned either to hard, or not hard enough, ſo that the ball, after its rebound, falls on the ſide of the line which deſcribes the hazard ſide, chances, in which caſe it is a chace at 1, 2, &c. provided there be no chace depending, and according to the ſpot where it actually falls. When the opponents change ſides, the player, in order to win his chace, muſt put the ball over the line, any where, ſo that his adverſary does not return it.

When there is no hazard ſide, all balls reckon that are put over the line from the ſervice ſide without being returned.

Tennis, inſtead of being marked in the uſual numerical gradations, is called for the firſt ſtroke 15, for the ſecond 30, for the third 40, and for the fourth game, unleſs the players make four ſtrokes each, then, inſtead of calling it 40 *all*, it is called *deuce*, after which the next ſtroke is called *advantage*; and in caſe the ſtrokes become once more equal, deuce again, until one or other of the players obtains two ſtrokes ſucceſſively to compleat the game.

The preciſe odds at Tennis are not aſcertained with that preciſion as might be wiſhed for, on account of the chances, and the variety of methods of giving odds to render a party nearly equal.

The loweſt odds given conſiſt in a *biſque*, (except the choice of the ſides of the court) which amounts to the liberty of ſcoring a ſtroke whenever the player, who receives this advantage, pleaſes to demand it. Example: ſuppoſe a game to be forty to thirty, he who is forty, and entitled to the *biſque*, gets the game.

General Rules of the Odds beſides.

Fifteen is a ſtroke given at the commencement of a game.

Half thirty is fifteen, given the firſt game, and *thirty* the ſecond game, and thus progreſſively to the whole thiry, forty, &c. &c.

Half court, implies the player being compelled to play into the adverſary's half-court.

Touch no wall, is ſtill a greater advantage, though the former is conſiderable.

Round the ſervice, is giving a ſervice all the extremity of the penthouſe.

Barring the hazards, is foregoing to reckon the dedans, tambour, or laſt gallery on the hazard ſide, &c.

The uſual odds that are laid, allowing for a variety of circumſtances, are as follow:

After the firſt ſtroke being won, which is called 15, the odds become.

Of the ſingle game	7 to 4
Thirty love -	4 to 1
Forty love -	8 to 1
Thirty fifteen -	5 to 1
Forty thirty -	3 to 1

The odds of a four game ſet, when the firſt game is won, are -	7 to 4
When two games love	4 to 1
Three games love	8 to 1
When two games to one	2 to 1
Three games to one	5 to 1
Four games love -	10 to 1
Five games love	21 to 1
When two games to one	8 to 5
Three games to one	5 to 2
Four games to one	5 to 1
Five games to one	15 to 1
When three games to two	7 to 4
Four games to two	4 to 1
Five games to two	10 to 1
When four games to three	2 to 1
Five games to three	5 to 1

The odds of an advantage ſet, when the firſt game is won, are -	5 to 4

When two games love	7	to 4
Three games love	3	to 1
Four games love	5	to 1
When two games to one	4	to 3
Three games to one	2	to 1
Five games to one	10	to 1
Four games to two	3	to 2
When four games to three	8	to 3
Five games to three	3	to 1
Two games to four	2	to 1
Six games to five	5	to 2

EXTRAORDINARY AMUSEMENTS OF THE ANCIENT KINGS OF FRANCE, WITH THE ORIGIN OF WEARING LIVERIES.

KING Pepin of France, who flouriſhed in the year 750, was ſurnamed the Short, from his low ſtature, which ſome of his Courtiers uſed as a ſubject of ridicule. Theſe freedoms reaching his ears, he determined to eſtabliſh his authority by ſome extraordinary feat, and an opportunity ſoon preſented itſelf. In an entertainment which he gave of a fight between a bull and a lion, the latter had got his antagoniſt under, when Pepin, turning towards his nobility, ſaid, "Who of you dare go and part or kill thoſe furious beaſts?" The bare propoſal ſet them a ſhuddering, nobody made anſwer. "Then I'll be the man," replied the monarch; and drawing his ſabre, leaped down into the arena, makes up to the lion, kills him, and without delay diſcharges ſuch a ſtroke on the bull as left his head hanging by the upper part of the neck. The Court was equally amazed at ſuch courage and ſtrength; and the King, with an heroic loftineſs, ſaid to them, "David was little, yet he laid low the inſolent giant who dared to deſpiſe him."

This paſſage ſhews, that fights of wild beaſts had been a common diverſion under former kings, and they not only entertained the people with ſuch fights, but often had them privately within their palaces.

Another amuſement was the *cœurs plenieres*, the name given to thoſe famous aſſemblies, at which, on an invitation from the king, all the lords were obliged to be preſent. They were held tiwce a year, at Chriſtmas and Eaſter. The occaſion was uſually a marriage, or ſome great rejoicing, and they laſted a week. Sometimes they were kept at the prince's palace, ſometimes at one of the chief cities, and ſometimes in an open field; but always at a place large enough conveniently to lodge all the nobility of the kingdom. The ceremony was opened with a ſolemn maſs, at the beginning of which the eccleſiaſtic, who officiated, put the crown on the king's head, where he remained till he retired at night. During the whole of the feſtival the king's meals were always in public, the biſhops and moſt diſtinguiſhed dukes ſitting at table with him. There was a ſecond for the abbots, the counts, and other nobles; and on both, more profuſion than delicacy. Each courſe was carried away with flutes and hautboys playing before it. On ſerving the deſert, twenty heralds at arms, each holding a rich goblet, called out three times, "Largeſs from the moſt potent of Kings," and threw about gold and ſilver money, which was accompanied with ſhouts of the people tumultuouſly gathering it up, and the flouriſhes of trumpets.

The afternoon's diverſions were fiſhing, hunting, play, rope-dancing, buffoons, jugglers, and pantomimes. The laſt, amidſt other excellencies in their art, had a wonderful talent at inſtructing dogs, bears, and monkies, training them up to imitate geſtures, actions, and poſtures of all kinds, ſo as even to act a part in their dramas. Theſe

ſhews,

ſhews, which were always very expenſive to the Prince, made one of the favourite exhibitions of thoſe aſſembles, that, without the feſtival, would not have been reliſhed; ſuch was the taſte of that age.

The reign of the Carlovingians may be ſaid to have been that of the *cours plenieres*. The height of their magnificence was under Charles the Great; the dukes and counts reſorting thither, from all the vaſt extent of his dominions, and many attended by a brilliant court, and rivalling kings themſelves in expence.

After Charles the Simple, this magnificence continually declined. Lewis, his ſon, and his grandſon, were not able, from the ſcantineſs of their income, to give theſe ſumptuous entertainments. Hugh Capet revived them, Robert continued them, and St. Lewis, in other reſpects ſo inſenſible to grandeur, and ſo averſe from revelry, carried them to ſome exceſs.

Charles the Seventh ſuppreſſed them, pleading his wars againſt the Engliſh; but the true reaſon was, their being ſo extremely burthenſome to the ſtate. The nobility frequently ruined themſelves there by gaming, and the monarch drained his treaſury. He was obliged every time to give new cloathing to his officers, and thoſe of the queen and the princes, from whence came the word *livery*, thoſe cloaths being *livrés*, or delivered out at the king's expence. This charge, and that of table and equipages, together with the donations and preſents which he was under a kind of neceſſity of making to the people and the great men, roſe to immenſe ſums. If there was any veſſel on his beaufet particularly coſtly, or any very curious jewel in his crown, he could not well avoid making a preſent of them to ſomebody, as it would have been a treſpaſs againſt cuſtom. A wiſe economy, at length, aboliſhed theſe ruinous aſſemblies, as indeed they were rather oſtentatious than neceſſary, or even of any good conſequence.

OF A KING'S BEHAVIOUR IN INDIFFERENT THINGS.

By King James VI. of Scotland.

DEARE SON,

AMONGST all vnneceſſarie thinges that are lawfull and expident, I thinke exerciſes of the bodie moſte commendable to be vſed by a young prince, in ſuche honeſt games or paſtimes, as may further ability and maintaine health, for albeit I graunt it to be the moſt requiſite for a King to exerciſe engine whiche ſurelie with idleneſſe will rouſte and become blant, yet certainly bodily exerciſes and games are verie commendable, as well for banniſhing of idleneſſe (the mother of all vice), as for making his bodie able and durable for travell, whiche is very neceſſarie for a King. But from this count, I debarre all rough and violent exerciſes, as the foot-ball; meeter for laming than making able the vſers thereof; as likewiſe ſuch tumbling trickes, as onely ſerue for comedians and balladines, to win their breade with. But the exerciſes that I would haue you to vſe (although but moderatlie, not making a craft of them), are running, leaping, wraſtling, fencing, dauncing, and playinge at the caitche or tenniſe, archery, pallemalle, and ſuch like other faire and pleaſant field-games. And the honorableſt and moſt commendable games that ye can vſe, are on horſeback, for it becommeth a prince beſt of anie man, to be faire and good horſeman. Vſe therefore to ride and danten greate and couragious horſes. And ſpeciallie vſe ſuche games on horſeback, as may teache

teache you to handle your armes thereon, ſuche as the tilt, the ring, and lowe-ryding for handling your ſworde.

I cannot omit heere the hunting, namelie, with running houndes, whiche is the moſt honourable and nobleſt ſorte thereof; for it is a theeuiſh forme of huntyng, to ſhoote with gunnes and bowes; and greyhound hunting is not ſo martiall a game. But becaus I would not be thoght a partiall praiſer of this ſport, I remit you to Xenophon, an olde and famous writer, who had no mind of flattering you or me in this purpoſe; and who alſo ſetteth down a faire pattern for the education of a young king, vnder the ſuppoſed name of Cyrus.

As for hawking, I condemne it not, but I muſt praiſe it more ſparinglie, becauſe it neither reſembleth the waires ſo neer, as huntyng doth, in making a man hardie, ſkilfullie ridden in all grounds, and is more vncertain and ſubject to miſchances, and (whiche is worſt of all) is there-through an extreame ſtirrer up of paſſions. But in vſing either of theſe games, obſerue that moderation, that ye ſlip not therewith the houres appointed for your affaires, whiche ye oughte euer præciſelie to keepe, remembering that theſe games are but ordayned for you, in enabling you for your office for the whiche ye are ordained.

And as ſitting houſe paſtimes, where-with men by driving time, ſpurre a free and faſt ynough running horſe (as the proverbe is), although they are not profitabyl for the exerciſe of either of minde or bodie, yet cannot I vtterlie condemne them, ſince they may at times ſupplye the roome, whiche being empty, would be patent to pernitious idleneſs, *quia nihil poteſt eſſe vaccuum.* I will not therefore aggree with the curioſity of ſome learned men in our age, in forbidding cardes, dice, and ſuch like games of hazzard, although otherwaies ſurely I reveruence them as notable and godlie men; for they are deceuied therein, in founding their argument upon a miſtaken grounde, whiche is, that the playing at ſuch games is a kinde of caſting of lot, and therefore vnlawful, wherein the decaue themſelves. For the caſting of lot was vſed for triall of the trueth in any obſcure thinge, that otherwaies could not be gotten cleared, and therefore was a ſort of prophecie; whereby the contrarie no man goeth to any of theſe plaies, to clear any obſcure trueth, but onlie to gage ſo muche of his owne moneye as he pleaſeth, vpon the hazzarde, vpon the running of the cardes and dice, as he would upon the ſpeede of a horſe or a dog, or any ſuche like gaigeour. And ſo, if they be vnlawfull, all gaigeours upon vncertainties, muſt likewayes be condemned. Not that thereby I take the defence of vain carders and dicers, that waſte their time and moneye, and their time (whereof fewe conſider the pretiouſneſſe) vpon prdigall and continuall playing; no, I would rather allowe it to be diſcharged, where ſuch corruption cannot be eſchewed. But onelie I cannot condemne you at ſome times, when ye haue no other to doe (as a good king will be ſeldome), and are wearie, or reading, or evill diſpoſed in your perſon, and when it is foule and ſtormie weather, then I ſay, may ye lawfully play at the cardes, or tables. For as to dycing, I thinke it beſt becometh deboſhed ſouldiers to play at on the head of their drums, being onlie ruled by hazzarde, and ſubject to knauiſhe cogging. And as for the cheſſe, I think it overfonde, becauſe it is ouer wiſe and philoſophick a follie. For where all ſuch light plaies are ordained to free

free men's heades, with as many fashions toies of the play as before, it was filled with thoughts on his affaires.

But in your playing, I would haue to keepe three rules; first, or ye play, consider ye doe it only for your recreation, and resolve the losse of all that ye play; and next, for that ye play no more than ye care to cast among pages; and last, alwaies to faire play precisely, that ye come not in vse of tricking and lying in jest; otherwise, if ye keep not these rules, my counsell is, that ye utterly abstain from these plays; for neither a made passion, for losse, nor falshood vsed for desire of gaine, can be called a play.

Now it is onely lawfull but necessarie, that ye have companie meete for eurie thing ye take on hand, as well in games and exercises, as in your graue and earnest affaires; but learne to distinguish time, according to the occasion, choosing your companie accordinglie. Conferre not with hunters at your counsell; beware likewaies, not to abuse yourself, making youre sporters your counsellors. And have the like respect to the seasons of your age, vsing your sorts of recreation and companie agreeing thereunto; for it becometh best eury age to smell of their own qualitie, insolence, and unlawful things, being alwaies eschewed, and not that a colt should draw a plough, and an old horse run away with the harrowes.

To the Editors *of the* Sporting Magazine.

Gentlemen,

At a shew now exhibiting at Sheffield, a Royal Bengal tiger broke loose, and after having killed a child in that town, it took to the seat of S. Sitwell, Esq. of Renishaw, (well known in the sporting world), who being informed of the accident, generously went in person with a few of his domestics; and with much trouble, as well as exposing himself to imminent danger, he, with the assistance of his hounds, subdued and killed the animal, though not before he had dispatched several of his dogs. I take the liberty of informing you of the above circumstance, which I hope will be inserted in your next Magazine.

I am, your old correspondent,

M. M.

The date omitted, but the above event supposed to have occurred the beginning of November.

CURIOUS HISTORICAL ANECDOTES OF FALCONRY.

Of Falcons in general, and the art of falconry, Mr. Pennant has collected many curious particulars. For this sport, the most esteemed is the Iceland falcon, which, with the dusky falcon, and gyrfalcon, is reserved for the Kings of Denmark, who sends his Falconer, with two attendants, annually, into the island to purchase them. They are caught by the natives, a certain number of whom, in every district, are licensed for that purpose. They bring all they take, about Midsummer, to Bessested, to meet the Royal Falconer, and each brings ten or twelve capped, and perched on a cross pole, which they carry on horseback, and rest on the stirrup. The Falconer examines the birds, rejects those which are not fit for the purpose, and gives the seller a written certificate of the qualities of each, which entitles him to receive from the King's Receiver-general, seventeen rix-dollars for

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F, or the pureſt white falcon; ten for E, or thoſe which are leaſt white; and ſeven for the ſwallow-tailed falcon. This brings into the Iſland, between two and three thouſand rix-dollars annually.

They are taken in the following manner:—Two poſts are faſtened in the ground, not remote from their haunts; to one is tied a ptarmigan, a pigeon, or a cock or hen faſtened to a cord, that it may have the means of fluttering, and to attract the attention of the falcon. On the other poſt is placed a net diſtended on a hoop, about ſix feet in diameter. Through this poſt is introduced a ſtring, above a hundred yards long, which is faſtened to the net, in order to pull it down, and another is faſtened to the upper part of the hoop, and goes through the poſt to which the bait is tied.

As ſoon as the falcon ſees the fowl flutter on the ground, he takes a few circles in the air, to ſee if there is any danger, then darts on his prey with ſuch violence, as to ſtrike off the head as nicely, as if it was done with a razor. He then uſually riſes again, and takes another circle, to explore the place a ſecond time; after which, he takes another ſtoop; when, at the inſtant of its deſcending, the man pulls the dead bird under the net; and by means of the other cord, covers the falcon with the net at the moment it has ſeized the prey, the perſon lying concealed behind ſome ſtones, or elſe lies flat on his belly, to elude the ſight of the falcon.

As ſoon as one is caught, it is taken gently out of the net, for fear of breaking any of the feathers of the wings or tail, and a cap is placed over its eyes. If any of the tail feathers are injured, the Falconers have the art of grafting others, which ſometimes has occaſioned a needleſs multiplication of ſpecies.

The Iceland falcons are in the higheſt eſteem. They will laſt ten or twelve years, whereas thoſe of Norway, and other countries, ſeldom are fit for ſport after two or three years uſe. Yet the Norwegian hawks were, in old times, in great repute in this kingdom, and even thought bribes worthy of a king. Geoffry Le Pierre, chief juſticiary, gave two good Norway hawks to King John, that Walter Madina might have leave to export a hundred weight of cheeſe. John, the ſon of Ordgur, gave a Norway hawk, to have the King's requeſt to the King of Norway, to let him have his brother's chattels; and Ralph Havoc, fined to King Stephen, in two girfals (gyrfalcons) and two Norway hawks, that he might have the ſame acquittance that his father had.

I cannot, ſays Mr. Pennant, fix the preciſe time of the origin of falconry. The paſſage in Ariſtotle, and the epigram in Martial, do by no means fix it to the periods in which they wrote. The philoſopher informs us, that "there was a diſtrict in Thrace, in which the boys uſed to aſſemble at a certain time of the year, for the ſake of bird-catching. That the ſpot was much frequented by hawks, which were wont to appear on hearing themſelves called; and would drive the little birds in the buſhes, where they were caught by the children, and that the hawks would even ſometimes take the birds, and fling them to theſe young ſportſmen, who, after finiſhing their diverſion, gratefully beſtowed on their aſſiſtants part of the prey."

This tale may have ſome truth at the bottom, it being notorious, that larks, and even patridges will, by the terror of a hawk paſſing over them, lie ſo ſtill, as to ſuffer themſelves to be taken by any paſſenger. Here ſeems to have been no training theſe Thracian hawks,

but

but a mere casual concurrence of hawks and small birds, which afforded them an amusement to the youth of the country. The thought expressed on the ancient gun of little Genii, engaged in the chace of deer, assisted by an eagle, may have originated from this story.

The poor only describes another kind of bird-catching, in the following epigram on the fate of a hawk:

Prædo fuit volucrum famulus nunc Aucupis, idem
Decipit, et captas non sibi, mœret, aves.

By the word *decipit*, it is plain the hawk was not trained, but was used merely as a stale, either to entice small birds into a net, or to the limed twigs; the last is a method still in use. The Italians call it, *uccellare con la civetta*; for, instead of a hawk, they place a small species of owl on a pole, in the middle of a field, and surround it at various distances, with lime twigs. The small birds, from their strange propensity to approach rapacious fowls, fly around, perch on the rods, and are taken in great numbers. A hawk would serve the purpose full as well. Pliny mentions the use of bird-lime, and Longus, in his elegant romance of Daphnis and Chloe, employs the latter to catch little birds for his beloved.

I cannot find any certainty of hawks being trained for diversion before the time of king Ethelbert, the Saxon monarch, who died in the year 760. He wrote into Germany for a brace of falcons, which would fly at cranes, and bring them to the ground, as there were few such in Kent. This shews how erroneous the opinion was of those who place it in the reign of the emperor Frederic Barbarossa, who was drowned in 1189. By the applicaplication of Ethelbert to Boniface, archbishop of Mentz, for the brace of falcons, it is evident that the diversion was in perfection in Germany before the year 752, the time in which that prelate was murdered by the Pagans. It seems to me highly probable, that falconry was invented in Scythia, and passed from thence into the northern parts of Europe. Tartary is even at present celebrated for its fine breed of falcons, and the sport is in such general esteem that, according to Obarius, there was no hut but what had its eagle or falcon. The boundless plains of that country are as finely adapted for the diversion, as the wooded or mountainous nature of most part of Europe is ill calculated for that rapid amusement.

The antiquity of falconry in Tartary is evinced by the exhibition of the sport on the very ancient tombs found in that country, in which are figured horsemen at full speed, with hawks on their hands: others again in the same attitude discharging their arrows at their game, in the very manner of of the ancient Scythians.

From Germany, falconry got footing in England, and became so favoured a diversion, that even sanguinary laws were enacted for the preservation of rapacious fowls. Edward III. made it death for the stealing of a hawk; and to take its eggs, even in a person's own ground, was punishable by a fine at the king's pleasure, and imprisonment for a year and a day. In the reign of James I. the amusement was carried to so extravagant a pitch, that Sir Thomas Monson is said to have given a thousand pounds for a cast of hawks.

The Goshawk is likewise one of the best for falconry; they abound in Siberia, and Kamtschatka. They extend to the river Amur, and are used by the Emperor of China, in his sporting progresses, attended by his grand Falconer, and a thousand of the subordinate. Every bird has a silvre

a ſilver plate faſtened about him with the name of the falconer who had the charge of it, that in caſe it ſhould be loſt, it might be brought to the proper perſon; but if he could not be found, the bird is delivered to another officer called the guardian of loſt birds, who keeps it till it is demanded by the falconer, to whom it belonged. That this great officer may the more readily be found among the army of hunters who attend the Emperor, he erects a ſtandard in the moſt conſpicuous place.

The Emperor often carries a hawk on his hand to let at any game which preſents itſelf, which are uſually pheaſants, partridges, quails, or cranes. Marco Polo ſaw this diverſion about the year 1269, a proof of its antiquity in theſe parts, when it formed ſo regular, and princely an eſtabliſhment in the ſtate of this great eaſtern monarch, the origin of which might have been in ſome long preceding age. The cuſtom of carrying a falcon extended to many countries, and was eſteemed a diſtinction of a man of rank. The Welch had a ſaying, that you might know a gentleman by his hawk, horſe, and greyhound; in fact, a perſon of rank ſeldom went without one in his hand. Harold, afterwards king of England, is painted going on a moſt important embaſſy with a hawk on his hand, and a dog under his arm. Henry VI. is repreſented at his nuptials attended by a nobleman and his falcon. Even the ladies were not without them in earlier times; for in an ancient ſculpture in the church of Milton Abbas, in Dorſetſhire, appears the conſort of king Athelſtan, with a falcon on her royal fiſt tearing a bird: and perhaps to indulge his queen in her paſſion for the diverſion, he demanded (beſides an immenſe tribute) ſome of their moſt excellent hounds, and of their beſt hawks; which proves the high eſteem in which our dogs and falcons were held in thoſe early days.

Among the varieties of falcons, Mr. Pennant enumerates the Cicinerous eagle.

Thoſe birds prey on young ſeals which they ſeize as they are floating on the water; but oft-times by fixing their talons on an old one, they are overmatched and drawn down to the bottom, ſcreaming horribly. They feed alſo on fiſh, eſpecially the lump-fiſh, and a ſort of trout, on ptarmigans, auks, and eider ducks. They ſit on the top of rocks, attentive to the motion of the diving birds, and with quick eyes obſerve the courſe by the bubbles which riſe to the ſurface of the water, and catch the fowls as they riſe for breath.

The Greenlanders uſe their ſkins for clothing, next to their bodies. They eat the fleſh, and keep the bill and feet for amulets. They kill them with the bow, or take them in nets placed in the ſnow, properly baited, or tempt them by the fat of ſeals, which the eagles eat to exceſs, and occaſions ſuch a torpidity as to make them an eaſy prey.

Another ſpecies of the falcon is the crying eagle, which is found in many parts of Europe, but not in Scandinavia: it is frequent in Ruſſia and Siberia, and extends even to Kamtſchatka. It is leſs generous and ſpirited than other eagles, and is perpetually making a plaintive noiſe, from which it was ſtiled by the ancients, *planga* and *clanga*, and *anataria* from its praying on ducks, which Pliny deſcribes with great elegance. The Arabs trained it for the chace, but its quarry was cranes and other birds, the more generous eagle being flown at Antelopes, and various other quadrupeds. This ſpecies was even of itſelf an object of diverſion, and made the game of ever ſo ſmall a facon

falcon as the ſparrow-hawk; which would purſue it with great eagerneſs, ſoar above, and then fall on the eagle, and faſtening it with its talons, keep beating it about the head with its wings till they both fall together to the ground. This Sir John Chardin has ſeen practiſed about Tauris.

Of the Duſky Falcon, mentioned before, it is remarkable that they have frequent diſputes with the raven, but ſeldom come off victors, for the raven, on being attacked, flings itſelf on its back; and either by defending itſelf with its claws, or by calling, with its croaking, numbers of others to its help, oblige the falcon to retire. It is alſo a native of Ireland.

The Kite Falcons are obſerved in vaſt numbers about Grand Cairo, where they are extremely tame, and feed even on dates. They alſo breed there, ſo that, contrary to the nature of other rapacious birds, they increaſe and multiply twice in the year, once in the mild winters of Egypt, and a ſecond time in the ſummers of the north.

The Black Eagle is a generous, ſpirited, and docile bird. The independent Tartars train it for the chace of hares, foxes, antelopes, and even wolves. The uſe is of conſiderable antiquity. Marco Polo, the great traveller of 1269, obſerved and admired the diverſion of the great Cham of Tartary, who had ſeveral eagles which were applied to the ſame purpoſes as they are at preſent. I muſt add, that the Tartars eſteem the feathers of the tail as the beſt they have for pluming their arrows.

The White-headed Eagle preys on fawns, pigs, lambs, and fiſh. It is the terror of the oſprey, whoſe motions it watches. The moment the latter has ſeized a fiſh, the former purſues till the latter has dropped his prey, which, with the moſt amazing dexterity, it catches before it falls to the ground, be the diſtance ever ſo great. This is a matter of great amuſement to the inhabitants of North America, who often watch their aërial conteſts. This ſpecies frequently attends the ſportſman, and ſnatches up the game he has ſhot, before he can reach it.

The Oſprey, or Fiſhing Hawk, notwithſtanding it is ſo perſecuted by the Bald Eagle, yet it always keeps near its haunts. It is a ſpecies of vaſt quickneſs of ſight, and will ſee a fiſh near the ſurface from a great diſtance, deſcend with prodigious rapidity, and carry its prey, with an exulting ſcream, high into the air. The eagle hears the note, and inſtantly attacks the oſprey, who drops the fiſh, which the former catches before it can reach the ground or water. It ſometimes happens that the oſprey periſhes in taking its prey, for if it chances to fix its talons in an overgrown fiſh, it is drawn under water before it can diſengage itſelf, and is drowned.

It is very frequent as low on the Wolga, as the tract between Syſran and Saratoff, where they are ſaid to be the ſupport of the ern eagle, as they are of the white-tailed eagle in America, each living by the labours of the oſprey. The Tartars have a ſuperſtition, that a wound from its claws is mortal, either to man or fiſh, and conſequently dread its attack.

DREADFUL SITUATION
Of a Traveller, among the Crocodiles, or Alligators, in North America.

THE evening was temperately cool and calm, the crocodiles began to roar, and appear in uncommon numbers along the ſhores, and in the river. I fixed my camp in a plain near the projection of the promontory, under the ſhelter of a large live oak, which ſtood on the

the higheſt part of the ground, and but a few yards from my boat. From this open high ſituation, I had a free proſpect of the river, which was a matter of no trivial conſideration to me, having good reaſon to dread the ſubtle attacks of the alligators, who were crowding about my harbour. Having collected a good quantity of wood for the purpoſe of keeping up a light and ſmoke during the night, I began to think of preparing my ſupper, when, upon examining my ſtores, I found but a ſcanty ſupply of proviſion; I thereupon determined, as the moſt expeditious way of ſupplying my neceſſities, to take my bob and try for ſome trout. About one hundred yards above my harbour began a cove or a bay of the river, out of which opened a large lagoon; the mouth or entrance from the river to it was narrow, but the waters ſoon after ſpread and formed a little lake, extending into the marſhes; its entrance and ſhores within, I obſerved to be verged with floating lawns of the piſtia and nymphia, and other aquatic plants; theſe I knew were excellent haunts for trout.

The verges and iſlets of the lagoon were elegantly embelliſhed with flowering plants and ſhrubs; the laughing coots with wings half ſpread, were tripping over the little coves, and hiding themſelves in the tufts of graſs; young broods of the painted ſummer teal ſkimming the ſtill ſurface of the waters, and following the watchful parent unconſcious of danger, were frequently ſurprized by the voracious trout; and he, in turn, as often by the ſuble greedy alligator. Behold him ruſhing forth from the flags and reeds! his enormous body ſwells; his plaited tail brandiſhed high, floats upon the lake. The waters, like a cataract, deſcend from his opening jaws; clouds of ſmoke iſſue from his dilated noſtrils; the earth trembles with his thunder; when immediately from the oppoſite coaſt of the lagoon, emerges from the deep his rival champion. They ſuddenly dart upon each other. The boiling ſurface of the lake marks their rapid courſe, and a terrible conflict commences. They now ſink to the bottom, folded together in horrid wreaths. The water becomes thick and diſcoloured. Again they ſink, when the conteſt ends at the bottom of the muddy lake; and the vanquiſhed makes a hazardous eſcape, hiding himſelf in the muddy turbulent waters and ſedge, on a diſtant ſhore. The proud victor, exulting, returns to the place of action; the ſhores and foreſts reſound his dreadful roar, together with the triumphing ſhouts of the plaited tribes around, witneſſes of the horrid combat.

My apprehenſions were highly alarmed, after being a ſpectator of ſo dreadful a battle. It was obvious that every delay would but tend to increaſe my dangers and difficulties, as the ſun was near ſetting, and the alligators gathered around my harbour from all quarters. From theſe conſiderations, I concluded to be expeditious in my trip to the lagoon, in order to take ſome fiſh, not thinking it prudent to take my fuſee with me, leſt I might loſe it overboard, in caſe of a battle, which I had every reaſon to dread before my return; I therefore furniſhed myſelf with a club for my defence, went on board, and penetrating the firſt line of thoſe which ſurrounded my harbour, they gave way, but being purſued by ſeveral very large ones, I kept ſtrictly on the watch, and paddled with all my might towards the entrance of the lagoon, hoping there to be ſheltered from the multitude of my aſſailants; but ere I had half way reached the place, I was attacked on all ſides, ſeveral endeavouring to overſet the canoe. My ſituation

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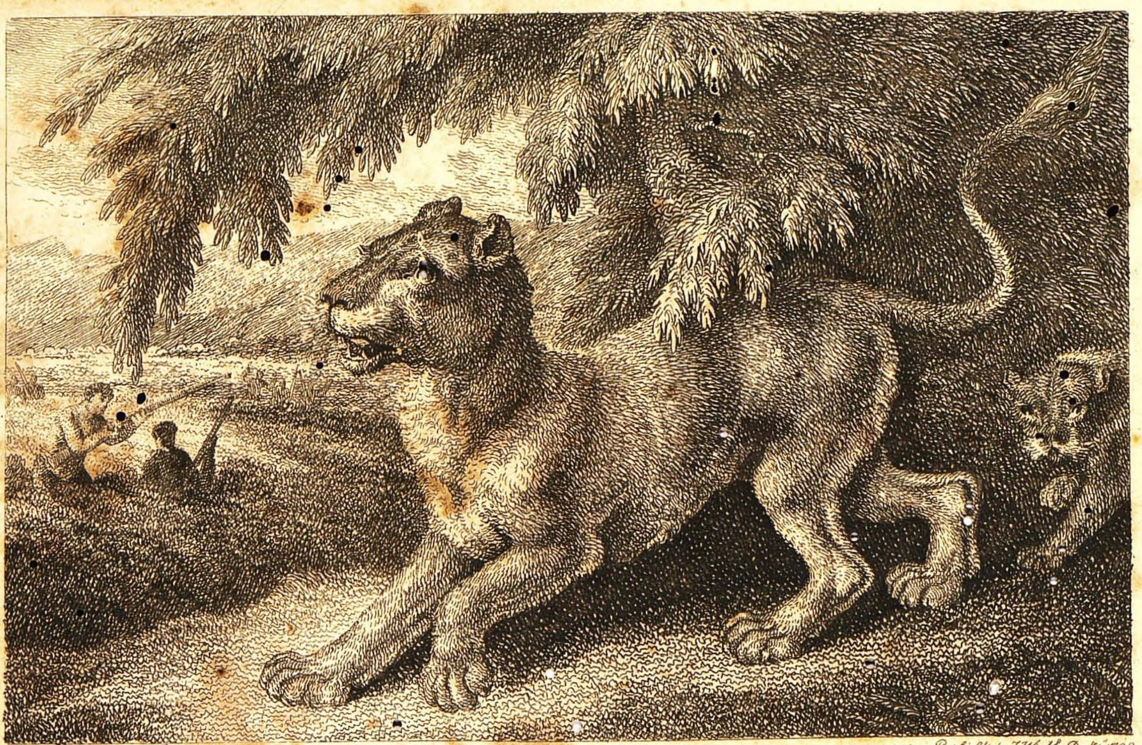
now became precarious to the laſt degree; two very large ones attacked me cloſely at the ſame inſtant, ruſhing up with their heads and parts of their bodies above the water, roaring terribly, and belching floods of water over me. They ſtruck their jaws together ſo cloſe to my ears, as almoſt to ſtun me, and I expected every moment to be dragged out of the boat, and inſtantly devoured: but I applied my weapons ſo effectually about me, though at random, that I was ſo ſucceſsful as to beat them off a little, when, finding that they intended to renew their attacks upon me, I made for the ſhore, as the only means left me for my preſervation; for, by keeping cloſe to it, I ſhould have my enemies on one ſide of me only, whereas I was before ſurrounded by them; and there was a probability, if puſhed to the laſt extremity, of ſaving myſelf, by jumping out of the canoe on ſhore, as it is eaſy to outwalk them on land, though comparatively as ſwift as lightning in the water. I found this laſt expedient alone could fully anſwer my expectations, for as ſoon as I had gained the ſhore they drew off, and kept aloof. This was a happy relief, as my confidence was in ſome degree recovered by it. On recollecting myſelf, I diſcovered that I had almoſt reached the entrance of the lagoon, and determined to venture in, to get, if poſſible, a few fiſh, and then return to my harbour, while day-light continued; for I could now, with caution and reſolution, make my way with ſafety along ſhore; and, indeed, there was no other way to regain my camp, without leaving my boat, and making my retreat through the marſhes and reeds, which, if I could even effect, would have been in a manner throwing myſelf away; for then there would have been no hopes of my ever recovering my bark, and returning in ſafety to any ſettlement of men. I accordingly proceeded, and made good my entrance into the lagoon, though not without ſome oppoſition from the alligators, who formed a line acroſs at the entrance, but did not purſue me into it, nor was I moleſted by any there, though there were ſome very large ones in a cove at the upper end. I ſoon caught more trout than I had preſent occaſion for, and the air was too hot and ſultry to admit of their being kept for many hours, even though ſalted or barbecued. I now prepared for my return to my camp, which I ſucceeded in with but little trouble, by keeping cloſe to the ſhore, yet I was oppoſed upon re-entering the river out of the lagoon, and purſued near to my landing: though cloſely attacked, particularly by an old daring one, about twelve feet in length, who kept ſo cloſe to me, that when I ſtepped on ſhore, and turned about in order to draw up my canoe, he ruſhed up near my feet, and lay there for ſome time, looking me in the face; his head and ſhoulders out of water. I reſolved he ſhould pay for his temerity, and having a heavy load in my fuſee, I ran to my camp, and returning with my piece, found him with his foot on the gunwhale of the boat in ſearch of fiſh. On my coming up he ſuddenly withdrew, ſullenly and ſlowly into the water, but ſoon returned and placed himſelf in his former poſition, looking and ſeeming neither fearful nor any way diſturbed. I ſoon diſpatched him by lodging the contents of my gun in his head, and then proceeded to clean and prepare my fiſh for ſupper, and accordingly took them out of the boat, laid them down on the ſand cloſe to the water, and began to ſcale them; when, raiſing my head, I ſaw before me, through the clear water, the head and ſhoulders of a very large alligator, moving ſlowly towards

N 2 me;

me: I inſtantly ſtepped back, when, with a ſweep of his tail, he bruſhed off ſeveral of my fiſh. It was certainly moſt providential that I looked up at that inſtant, as the monſter would probably, in leſs that a minute, have ſeized and dragged me into the river. This incredible boldneſs in the animal diſturbed me greatly, ſuppoſing there could now be no reaſonable ſafety for me during the night, but by keeping continually on the watch: I therefore, as ſoon as I had prepared the fiſh, proceeded to ſecure myſelf and effects in the beſt manner I could. In the firſt place I hauled my bark on ſhore, almoſt clear out of the water, to prevent their overſetting or ſinking her. After this, every moveable was taken out and carried to my camp, which was but a few yards off; then ranging ſome dry wood in ſuch order as was the moſt convenient, I cleared the ground round about it, that there might be no impediment, in caſe of an attack in the night, either from the water or land; for I diſcovered by this time that this ſmall iſthmus, from its remote ſituation and fruitfulneſs, was reſorted to by bears and wolves. Having prepared myſelf in the beſt manner I could, I charged my gun, and proceeded to reconnoitre my camp and the adjacent grounds, when I diſcovered that the peninſula and grove, at the diſtance of about two hundred yards from my encampment, on the land ſide, were inveſted by a cypreſs ſwamp, covered with water, which, below, was joined to the ſhore of the little lake, and above, to the marſhes ſurrounding the lagoon; ſo that I was confined to an iſlet exceedingly circumſcribed; and I found there was no other retreat for me, in caſe of an attack, but by either aſcending one of the large oaks, or puſhing off with my boat.

It was by this time duſk, and the alligators had nearly ceaſed their roar, when I was again alarmed by a tumultuous noiſe that ſeemed to be in my harbour, and therefore engaged my immediate attention. Returning to my camp, I found it undiſturbed, and then continued on to the extreme point of the promontory, where I ſaw a ſcene new and ſurpriſing, which at firſt threw my ſenſes into ſuch a tumult, that it was ſome time before I could comprehend what was the matter; however, I ſoon accounted for the prodigious aſſemblage of crocodiles at this place, which exceeded every thing of the kind I had ever heard of.

How ſhall I expreſs myſelf, ſo as to convey an adequate idea of it to the reader, and at the ſame time avoid raiſing ſuſpicions of my veracity! Should I ſay that the river (in this place) from ſhore to ſhore, and, perhaps, near half a mile above and below me, appeared to be one ſolid bank of fiſh of various kinds, puſhing through this narrow paſs of St. Juan's, into the little lake, on their return down the river; and that the alligators were in ſuch incredible numbers, and ſo cloſe together from ſhore to ſhore, that it would have been eaſy to have walked acroſs on their heads, had the animals been harmleſs? What expreſſions can ſufficiently declare the ſhocking ſcene that for ſome minutes continued, while this mighty army of fiſh were forcing their paſs? During this attempt thouſands, I may ſay hundreds of thouſands of them, were ſwallowed by the devouring alligators. I have ſeen an alligator take up, out of water, ſeveral great fiſh at a time, and juſt ſqueeze them betwixt his jaws, while the tails of the great trout flapped about his eyes and lips ere he ſwallowed them. The horrid noiſe of their cloſing jaws; their plunging amidſt the broken banks of fiſh, and riſing with their prey ſome feet upright above



Howitt in et f. | Publish'd by J. Wheble, Decr. 1. 1798.

LIONESS,

appearing from the Wood, when shot by Klaas. See Vaillant's
Second Journey Vol. 3d. P.248.

above the water; the floods of water and blood rushing out of their mouths, and the clouds of vapour issuing from their wide nostrils, were truly frightful. This scene continued at intervals during the night, as the fish came to the pass. After this sight, shocking and tremendous as it was, I found myself somewhat easier, and more reconciled to my situation, being convinced their extraordinary assemblage here was owing to this annual feast of fish, and that they were so well employed in their own element, that I had little occasion to fear their paying me a visit.

(*To be continued.*)

THE LIONESS.

[*An Etching by Mr. Howit.*]

THE following is another extract from Valliant's second Journey; and it should be noticed that in our last extract to illustrate the etching of "*Antelope Hunting*," (see Mag. for October, page 7) we omitted to mention that it was taken from M. Valliant's Book.

"Nevertheless I promised to attack them the next day, and engaged at least to drive them away, if I could not destroy them. Considering, however, the closeness of the thicket, and the difficulties of the attack, I required, exclusive of all my own people whom I intended to employ, that those of the horde should also join me. During the night, we surrounded ourselves with very large fires, and discharged from time to time our muskets. But these precautions were unnecessary, for the lions, having the remains of their ox to devour, did not appear, though we heard them during a great part of the night.

At break of day, the men of the horde were ready, armed with arrows and assagays, and waited nothing but my orders to proceed to attack. Even the women and children would be of the party; not indeed to fight, but to satisfy their curiosity, and enjoy our victory. I heard the lions still growling in their strong hold, but the increasing light soon silenced them. The sun appeared, and the profound silence that then prevailed, was the signal for our departure. The thicket was about two hundred paces long, and sixty wide. It occupied a spot sunk lower than the adjacent ground, so that it was to be entered on a descent. The whole consisted of bushes and briars, except some mimosas which rose from its centre. These trees, could I have reached them, would have afforded me an advantageous position for the attack. On their summits I should have been secure, and might have shot the two animals at my ease; but not knowing exactly the situation of their lair, it would have been highly imprudent in me to traverse the thicket, in order to reach these trees, since I should thereby have exposed myself to the danger of being seized by the way. Unable to attack these formidable beasts in their intrenchments, all that remained was to tempt them out of their fort; for it was difficult, not to say impossible, to come at them through the bushes, that covered them; and my marksmen would vainly have attempted to manage or present with any aim, when thus entangled with their long fusees. I therefore determined to place them, and the other savages, at certain distances from each other, upon the eminences all round the wood; so that the lions should be unable to reach the plain without being perceived; persuaded that in the open country we should be the stronger party, and finally triumphant.

"None of the savages daring to enter

enter the wood, we reſolved to force all the oxen of the horde into it. Accordingly, when we were at our poſts, with our guns ready to fire, we drove the oxen before us, compelling them, by our voices and blows, to enter the thicket. At the ſame time my dogs opened, and I fired off ſeveral piſtols to frighten the lions and make them come out. The oxen, ſcenting their enemies, ſoon ruſhed back with affright, and returned towards us; but our cries, the barking of the dogs, and the report of our arms, compelled them to enter the thicket, which they did in a ſort of fury, joſtling one another, and bellowing in a fearful manner. The lions on their ſide were rouſed at the ſight of danger, and their rage vented itſelf in dreadful roars. We heard them in every part of the thicket, without their daring to ſhew themſelves any where, or advance upon us. The conflict of two armies could not be more loud than their threatening voices, confounded with the cries of men and dogs, and the lowing of the oxen. This hideous concert continued great part of the morning, and we began to deſpair of the ſucceſs of our enterpriſe, when ſuddenly, I heard on the ſide oppoſite to me, piercing cries, inſtantly followed by the report of a gun, which made me tremble. But ſhouts of joy immediately ſucceeded, and, paſſing from one to another along the circle till they came to me, announced a victory. I ran to the place, and found the lioneſs expiring. Klaas, who was ſtationed at that poſt, had fired and ſhot her through the body. Her dugs, though without milk, were ſwelled and pendant, which indicated ſhe had young ones, and proved that I had not been miſtaken in my conjecture.

It came into my head to employ her carcaſe for the purpoſe of enticing them out of the thicket. With this view I ordered it to be drawn to a certain diſtance, not doubting but the young ones would come, in queſt of their dam, and that the male would probably follow, either to avenge or defend them. I collected at my new poſt ſome of my hunters from the right and left, and we retired to the diſtance of thirty paces from the carcaſe, ready to fire if the animals advanced. But my ſtratagem was unſucceſsful, and we ſpent ſeveral hours waiting for them in vain. The whelps, indeed, uneaſy at not ſeeing their mother, ran about the thicket, growling on all ſides. The male too, on being ſeparated from her, redoubled his roarings and his rage. We ſaw him for a moment appear at the edge of the thicket, his eyes ſparkling, his mane erect, and laſhing his ſides with his tail. But unfortunately he was out of ſhot of my carbine, and one of my markſmen, who was poſted nearer, fired and miſſed him. At this he retired; and, whether he feared to attack ſo numerous a body of men, or was unwilling to leave his young, or had received a hurt, he appeared no more; though animals of this ſpecies, as I have already obſerved, are more fierce and intrepid when they have young, than at any other period, yet the males are not ſo much ſo as the females, a fact well known to the ſavages. After waiting a long time to no purpoſe, and deſpairing of the ſucceſs of my ſtratagem, I reſolved to return to my former plan of attack. In conſequence, I ſent all the people to their poſts, and we again attempted to drive the oxen into the thicket, in order to diſlodge the remainder of the family, but they were too much frightened. They all refuſed to proceed, and I was obliged to give up the deſign; though the dogs, animated by the blood of the lioneſs, which they had ſcented, opened with

great

great ardour, and shewed much eagerness for the sport. We had spent a considerable part of the day in the chace, the sun was declining, and it would become more dangerous. I deemed it prudent, therefore, to think of retreating, and to defer our final victory till the next day. The savages conveyed the lioness to the Kraal, for the purpose of feasting on her; but, as I was desirous of her skin, I directed this to be first taken off. She was four feet four inches and a half (about four feet eight inches English) high to the top of the shoulder, and ten feet eight inches (eleven feet four inches) long, from the point of the nose to the extremity of the tail."

THE CAPTIVE OF SPILBURG.

DRURY-LANE.

ON November 15, a new Musical Drama, in two acts, called The Captive of Spilburg, was produced for the first time at this Theatre. The following are the Dramatis Personæ:

Korowitz, a Bohemian Nobleman,	*Mr. Barrymore.*
Canzemar, his nephew,	*Mr. Kelly.*
Kaurakin, in the service of Korowitz.	*Mr. Bannister, jun.*
Mirhoff, servant to Canzemar,	*Mr. Suett.*
Liebstoff, servant to Korowitz,	*Mr. Caulfield.*
Iwan, son to Korowitz,	*Miss Benson.*
Eugenia, wife to Korowitz,	*Mrs. Crouch.*
Moola, a peasant of Spilburg,	*Mrs. Bland.*
First Bohemian Dancer,	*Sig. Bossi del Caro.*

The principal scene lies in the Castle of Spilburg, Bohemia.—The fable is as follows:—

Eugenia, secretly married to the Baron Korowitz, had been on a journey attacked by robbers, and rescued by Canzemar, nephew to Korowitz, who, ignorant of her being his uncle's wife, falls in love with her, and carries her forcibly to his own home; having in vain attempted to overpower her virtue, or to learn her name or rank, he at length releases her, on condition of her swearing never to reveal the name of the person who had thus offended her. On her return, the jealous Korowitz confines her in a dungeon of his solitary Castle of Spilburg. He here visits her, and endeavours to extort the secret from her, by means of her affection for her infant son. During the absence of Korowitz from Court, he is accused of the death of Eugenia and her child, and ordered to be arrested. These orders are executed, and Eugenia, now left with her child to the danger of instant destruction, is by singular incidents preserved, and restored to her husband by Canzemar, whose confession vindicates her innocence, and Korowitz is finally reconciled to her.—The underplot arises from the espousals of Kaurak in and Moola, two servants in the Castle.

This piece, the subject of which is taken from a well-known incident in the celebrated work of Adele and Theodore, is a translation from the French entertainment of Camille, ou le Souterrain, by Mr. Hoare, to whose dramatic genius the public are indebted for some of the most favourite after-pieces of the present day. The story is very interesting, and, in the general construction

struction

ſtruction and diverſified dialogue of the piece, the author has amply ſupported his well-eſtabliſhed fame. The intereſt which pervades the whole is far beyond the character of modern productions of a ſimilar nature, and, with a few curtailments in the comic ſcenes (we ſpeak of the firſt repreſentation), ſuch as the drunken interview between Kaurakin and Mirhoff, in the ſecond act, the Captive of Spilburg will not fail to experience a laſting aſylum in the taſteful liberality of an Engliſh audience. The muſic is of the firſt deſcription: it is the compoſition of Duſſek, and will ſerve as a monument of his matured judgment and ſcientific taſte. To the exertions of the performers the author muſt feel himſelf much indebted. Mrs. Crouch has a very excellent part, to which ſhe does much juſtice; Banniſter's talents are happily brought into action; and Barrymore, Suett, and Mrs. Bland, have parts allotted to them well ſuited to their reſpective talents. The Opera was announced for ſecond repreſentation with much applauſe.—For ſpecimens of the Poetry, ſee our Poetical Department.

The above piece, the Captive of Spilburg, has been performed ſeveral times, and with general approbation.

LAW SUIT ABOUT A FAVOURITE MARE.

COMMON PLEAS, NOV. 24, 1798.

WILLIAMSON *v.* WATERFIELD.

MR. Williamſon had a favourite mare, which he himſelf bred. He put her to ſtand at livery with the defendant in the neighbourhood of Bloomſbury, who wiſhed to purchaſe her; and as ſhe had a particular defect, which made her unpleaſant to ride, the plaintiff agreed to ſell her for Ten Pounds, on condition, however, that ſhe ſhould not be put to draw in a hackney coach, or otherwiſe employed, ſo as to be uſed ill. The purchaſe-money was not paid at the time ſhe was delivered, and a day or two after that period he ſaw the mare in a hackney coach; in conſequence he took her from defendant's ſtables, and ſent her to the grounds adjoining his houſe at Chigwell. Upon this, defendant went to the Public Office in Marlborough-ſtreet, and charged the plaintiff with horſe-ſtealing, and having obtained a warrant, went to Chigwell, armed with that authority, and regained poſſeſſion of the mare. Mr. Williamſon came to town, and appeared before Mr. Conant at the Public Office, when the Magiſtrate ſaid he could not look upon the charge as being of a felonious nature, and recommended a compromiſe, and a caſe was ſtated, and being approved by both parties, was referred to a gentleman of great reſpectability. The award being made, the defendant alledged that the caſe had not been ſtated preciſely according to his meaning, and the compromiſe thus going off, the plaintiff brought this action in trover to recover the mare.

The learned Judge recommended withdrawing a Juror, but the defendant's Counſel not ſeeming deſirous to acquieſce, his Lordſhip adviſed him to pay the Ten Pounds, each party to be liable to his own coſts, obſerving, that by this mode of terminating the controverſy, the defendant would exempt himſelf from a ſerious action for charging the plaintiff with horſe ſtealing. This propoſition was accepted; but the plaintiff's Counſel ſuggeſting that his client would receive the mare back in preference to the money, the beaſt was ordered to be reſtored to her original owner.

FEAST OF WIT;
OR,
SPORTSMAN's HALL.

THE following letter (a literary curioſity) was really ſent by a tradeſman to an Aſſociation of Volunteers, declining to join their corps:

June 20 98

Gen tall Men of this Aſſociation this is To inforem you you that I muſt Decline this Aſſociation for the Expences is to great For Me to Bare in the time of My Entrance it was that we was for to Go out one day in The wick and Each Man for to Receve one Shillin and Now the Ceace is altred for to pay And Loaes his Time to it Will not do for me if I Should go out in Biſnes Thinking for To Com hom for to go to purread and Cold Not then it wold Coſt 9d a day and that is Moar than I do take Som dayes then whear is the Rent and the taixes to Com from and that Muſt Be both paid I will with The Bleſſing of god, Learn My Deſaplien Againſt the time of the invaſion of aney Enemy and Com forrod with hart and Soll With Such a parrell as I have for pride and fine Cloathing Will not kill a frenchman I have Been draun in the Mirileтey once and I have got My dis Charge that Coſt Me a great deall of Money then I do Not Like for to aict the Part of a gen tall Man without the Stuff for to Car it out As Som do thear is Not Scarce a wick do. pas But thear is Sum do run away or Sent to priſon and that I do Not Like for My tempar is for to pay Every Man Twenty Shillines to the pound When the Time do Com for Me to be caled upon for to Meet the french I will do as david did When he Went for to Meet the filiſtion I will Call on the Lord and that Betar than fine Cloas Gen tall Men yur moſt humball Sarvant

One of the Dover ſtages, on its way to London, one day laſt month, was ſtopped by a ſingle highwayman, but being informed by the coachman there were no inſide paſſengers, and only one in the baſket, and he a ſailor, the robber inſtantly proceeded to exerciſe his function upon the honeſt tar: When waking him out of his ſleep, Jack demanded to know what he wanted? To which the ſon of Plunder replied—"Your money." "You ſha'nt have it," ſays Jack. "No, (replied the robber) then I'll blow your brains out." "B—ſt your eyes blow away, ſays Jack, I may as well be without brains as without money—Drive on Coachey."

A PARAGRAPH FOR A FRENCH NEWSPAPER.

"We learn, by letters fr[illegible] England, that alarming mutinies have broken out in the different dock-yards of that country, in conſequence of it's having been repreſented to the workmen that there is no longer any employment for them, *as Government now imports all its ſhips ready built.*"

ANECDOTE.

The celebrated Boerhaave ordered that all his manuſcripts and books ſhould be burnt, one large volume, with gilt leaves and ſilver claſps, excepted. The phyſical people flocked to Leyden, and entreated the executors to diſobey the will.—The effects were ſold.—A German Count, convinced that the great gilt book contained the whole *arcana* of phyſic, bought it at 10,000 guilders. On examining it, he found that it was all blank paper but the firſt page, on which was written, "Keep the head cool, the feet warm, and the body open, and bid defiance to the phyſician."

A Lady applied to the late Counſellor Cox, who lay under a ſtrong

O ſuſpicion

suspicion of Poetry, to write a few lines in her favour, which he readily consented to do, on her agreeing to wear them on her breast.—He wrote the following:

To be let or sold for the term of my life,
Elizabeth Thompson, by way of a wife;
I'm tall and I'm handsome, good-natur'd, tho' thin:
For further particulars—enquire within.

A BARBERISM.

A barber in Chichester had the following humourous device in his window on the late victory:

May Britain's foes before our navy fly;
While Nelson's shaves them *wet*, we'll shave them *dry*.

A sign painter in Cumberland informs his customers, in a hand-bill, that he paints Blue Boars, Green Dragons, and Flying-horses, from the *life*.

A noted *Chop-House*, in the vicinity of Holborn, having lost its character and business, from being frequented by a company of violent *Democrats* and *Republicans*, was shut up. On its being lately opened again by a new Landlord, he was anxious to shew that *the case was altered*, and therefore exhibited the sign of the *King's Head*. A friend observing it, said to him, "Do you think by your new sign to keep away the old customers? Why, there is not one of them but would like as much as ever to have a *chop* at the *King's Head*."

A Jew at Newmarket Fair who lately thought to cheat a countryman by offering him a counterfeit guinea, which he took out of his mouth, might be fairly accused of *uttering* base coin.

Peter Porcupine's *Philadelphia Gazette*, contains the following article:—"Died lately, Dr. Hugh Hodge, an eminent Physician. Dr. Hodge was a *rare character* in his profession; he was neither *fop*, *pedant*, *quack*, *lunatic*, nor *sycophant*; but a good natured man, of simple manners, sound understanding, and very great medical skill."

BON MOT.

A Country Apothecary, not a little distinguished for his impudence, with a hope of disconcerting a young Clergyman, whom he knew to be a man of singular modesty, asked him, in the hearing of a large company at a public assembly, "Why the Patriarchs of old lived to such an extreme age? To which the Clergyman replied, "I suppose the ancient Patriarchs *took no physic!*"

TURKISH GALLANTRY.

A Lady, who was in company with the Ottoman Ambassador at Vienna, asked of him lately,—"Why the religion of Mahomet permitted the men to have a number of *Wives?*" He answered, without the smallest embarrassment, "Madam, our Religion permits us to have many wives, because it is with difficulty that we can find in a number the charms which are centered in *your* person!

A few days before the late Dutchess of Queensberry's death, the late Lord Orford, (then the Honourable Horatio Walpole) being along with other company, at her table, in celebrating the anniversary of her birth day, filled a glass of wine immediately after dinner, and addressing himself to the Dutchess, said, "Here is your good health, my Lady Dutchess, and may you live till you're ugly!"—upon which the Dutchess immediately replied, "Thank you, Sir, and may you always preserve *your taste for the Antique!*

A jockey lately selling a nag to a Gentleman at Glasgow, frequently observed with much earnestness, "That he was an *honest* horse." After the purchase, the Gentleman asked him, "What he meant by an *honest* horse." "Why, I'll tell you, (replied the jockey)—Whenever

I rode

I rode him, he always threatened to *throw* me, and d—n me if ever he deceived me."

SPORTING INTELLIGENCE.

A WILTSHIRE RUN.

ON Thursday the 1st instant, as Mr. Blake, of New-house, was hunting with his harriers in Ford Inclosures, he very unexpectedly started a doe, which took across the country to Winterbourne Inclosures, from thence through Gumbledon Furse to Allington, Newtontoney, and the Folly, and after two hours very hard running, and a chace of near twenty miles, was taken at Allington. Early in the chace, when the deer turned on the dogs, they appeared frightened, and easily kept at bay; but when she started again they lay close to her haunches, and, during the remainder of this uncommon chase, run in a stile that gave delight to some of the first amateurs of stag-hunting.

TIGER HUNT.

A royal tiger, of immense size, lately made his appearance about four miles from the confines of the Black Town at Bombay. A large party of the natives, armed with spears, swords and muskets, went in pursuit, and shortly came up with him; the ferocious animal, nothing alarmed by their numbers or appointment, allowed them to approach within a few toises, when he sprang on them, killed one on the spot, wounded three others mortally, and then with great composure retired unhurt.

PUSS IN THE PULPIT.

One day last month, E. N. Kershaw, Esq. of Heskin-hall, Lancashire, taking the diversion of hunting, found a hare, which, after affording excellent diversion, was pursued by the hounds into a chapel in the neighbourhood, and, after repeated attempts to take her, she leaped into the pulpit, and was seized by an old favourite hound, in presence of the astonished hunters.

COURSING.

At the Malton Meeting, held the beginning of this month, the silver cup was won by Major Topham's black dog, Snowball, beating three others, after two very severe courses of near three miles each. It was imagined that four more capital dogs were never started on the Yorkshire road.

HAMPSHIRE SPORTING.

On Saturday the 3d instant, a fox was uncovered at Beauworth woods, and directed his course towards Twyford: he run through the village into the garden of Major Paulett, from thence into that of Lady Jones, in which he was lost for upwards of an hour, and was at last discovered in a bed of artichokes, which had been crossed several times by his numerous pursuers, and it was then with some difficulty they could force him out. He then leaped over the fence and made for Compton, through the river Itchin, and was killed in a field belonging to Mr. John Houghton. From the length of the chase the horses and hounds seemed to be much fatigued, and the gentlemen were highly satisfied with their day's sport.

A young woman lately going to Burnley *to be married*, was taken ill on the road near that place, and *delivered of twins*, one of which is since dead. The disappointed bride was conveyed to the nearest house, and is in a fair way of recovery.

Lately in Kentmere, near Kendal, Miss Margaret Askew, a very prolific *spinster*, was delivered of a daughter, being, according to the parish accounts, her *sixteenth* child, all by *different* fathers.

A strange phænomenon has appeared in the house of Mr. Pitt, at

Holwood—a maid servant has been brought to bed of a *fine boy!* The mother and child are both well, and ordered to be tenderly treated.

Major —— is the reputed father of the little bantling who lately disturbed the Holwood orgies. The Major had taken an apartment in the neighbourhood of Stratford for the frail fair one, and the needful preparations were made for her removal, but unluckily the letter which announced these arrangements miscarried, and, by the anxiety incident to apprehended exposure, the youngster was ushered before his time into the world, to the extreme mortification of the Minister, and the amusement of his friends.

MARRIAGE IN CHESHIRE.

John Johnson, of Whally, in the parish church of Taxall, was married to Dame Margaret Osburn, of Horridge End. The ages of this extraordinary loving couple fill up a space of one hundred and sixty-three years. The bridegroom is father to eighteen children, grandfather to eighty, and great grandfather to twenty-seven. The venerable bride is mother to twenty children, grand-mother to ninety-four, and great grandmother to twenty-four; in all two hundred and seventy-four. Above one hundred of those descendants, in beautiful attire, attended the ceremony, together with a very great number of the most respectable neighbours, to congratulate the happy pair.

The female part of Sir W. Slo-pe's family, resident near Hartford-bridge, take their morning rides on *jack asses*; whether this be on the score of parental *economy*, or to inculcate on the minds of three elegant and accomplished young women the *primitive* virtue of *humility*, is not yet clearly ascer-

The Kentish Bowmen are not expected to open their beautiful little Theatre, on Dartford Heath, before Christmas. The performances are got up in a superior style, and the performers, particularly Mr. Dawkins, the Junior Sheridan, the Honourable Bukley Craven, and Mr. Joseph Madocks, display uncommon abilities. They engage ladies to assist them:—Miss Darrel (a lady of great merit), is their first actress; and Mrs. Edwards, of the Hay-market, their first singer.

THE TAYLORS DONE OVER!

On Monday, November 5, a foot-race, for forty guineas, was ran on Horsham Common, Sussex, between J. Winton, known by the name of the Flying Taylor, of that place, and a famous runner from London. The race, which was one hundred and fifty yards, was won with apparent ease by the Londoner. And the next day another race was ran on the same ground, for twenty guineas, between Andrews, likewise a taylor of Horsham, and a second pedestrian racer from London, which also terminated in favour of the cockney. Five hundred pounds it is said did not excuse the losers.

A few days since a covey of partridges, sixteen in number, being disturbed by some men at plough, near East Dean, Sussex, took to wing, and directed their flight across the cliff, towards the sea, over which they continued their course, in a straight line, to the distance of about fifty rods, when, on a sudden, and, as if intimidated or affected by the element, they were observed all to drop into the water. Twelve of them were soon after floated to shore by the tide, and picked up by a boy, who carried them to East-Bourne, where he sold them at nine-pence the bird.

The

The society of Friendship and Harmony held its first meeting, for the present season, on the 28th instant, at the Garrick's Head, Bow-street, when a considerable number of members attended. Mr. Munden was in the chair. The dinner consisted of all the delicacies of the season, and was served up in a style of attentive *politesse*. Many loyal toasts and sentiments were given. Several songs were sung by the Gentlemen of the different Theatres, and the characteristic of the society, Friendship and Harmony continued to a late hour.

Prince William of Gloucester has forbidden his officers to shoot about Ashford, in Kent.

Friday, the 16th instant, Mr. Goodyear, of the Bear Inn, Box, Somersetshire, shot a woodcock, with both its wings white: he has reserved it for the inspection of the curious.

One day this month 1272 packs of unstamped cards, made for exportation, but purchased with a view of being consumed in this kingdom to defraud the revenue, were, by order of the commissioners of stamps, publicly burnt in the presence of a great number of spectators, in the High-street of Shoreham, having been seized with other contraband goods from illicit traders, and deposited in the custom-house at Lewes.

Lady Jersey has just purchased the beautiful seat of Cannon's Park, the residence of the late Colonel O'Kelly, of Newmarket celebrity.

JOHN WESTLEY, A GOOD HORSE-MAN.

This day, Sept. 7, 1774, Mr. Westley rode upwards of eighty miles, and preached four sermons, viz. having slept at Port Isaac, in Cornwall, he gave the family a short exhortation in the morning, and rode from thence to Camelford, and preached—from thence to Launceston, and preached—from thence to Tavistock, and preached—and from thence to Plymouth, where he began preaching precisely by six o'clock in the evening. This journey was performed without change of horses.

BOXING.

An impudent fellow, named Joseph Side , a soldier in the Middlesex militia, who had long made pretensions to eminence in the pugilistic science, and had offered to box any man in the county of Kent, lately had his challenge accepted by a Joseph Moore, a Folkstone fisherman, to fight for two guineas. The parties accordingly met, on Thursday the 8th of November, in a field adjoining Shorn Cliff barracks, near Hythe; when, on the first set-to, the military bragadocia having received a hard blow in the face, which knocked him down, he fell a crying, and refused to rise, to the great mortification of his friends, who had before considered him invincible.

Friday morning a desperate battle was fought in the Tenter-grounds, Moorfields, between Am. Spinosa and Jacob Buzaglo, two Jews, dealers in old cloaths, for five guineas a side, which lasted about 35 minutes, when victory was declared in favour of the former. They were taken into custody on their entering the city, on suspicion of being concerned in several robberies.

AN USEFUL HINT.

Some Smiths, in shoeing a horse, burn his feet to make the shoe fit; by which cruel and foolish custom the poor animal is often irreparably injured. Gentlemen, who may be supposed to have more reflection and humanity, are justly blameable for not discouraging such barbarity as would make a wild Arab shudder.

Monday last the famous Berkshire boar, which had so much excited the curiosity of the country, was slaughtered

ſlaughtered by a brawn-maker, of Bridgnorth; he was near ten years old, and had been in the poſſeſſion of a farmer of Treyſal, near Wolverhampton, ſix years. His tuſks meaſured, when taken out, eight inches in length, and the lanthorn on ſhoulders more than nine in thickneſs. He latterly became ſo furious, as not to be approached with ſafety

WONDERFUL FISH.

In a hiſtory of Kent, juſt publiſhed, after an enumeration of ſeveral uncommon fiſhes, we find the following account of one taken at St. Peter's, in the Iſle of Thanet, the 9th of July, 1574—

"He ſhot himſelf on ſhore on a little ſand called Fiſhneſs, where, for want of water, he died the next day, before which time his roaring was heard above a mile. His length was twenty-two yards, the nether jaw opening twelve feet; one of the eyes was more than a cart and ſix horſes could draw, a man ſtood upright in the place from whence his eye was taken, the thickneſs from his back to the top of his belly (which lay upward) was fourteen feet; his tail of the ſame breadth; the diſtance between his eyes was twelve feet; three men ſtood upright in his mouth; ſome of his ribs were ſixteen feet long; his liver was two cart loads, and a man might creep into his noſtrils."

GLUTTONY DEFEATED.

Laſt week a man at Pensford, near Bath, after eating a pound of fat mutton, and two pounds of ſheep's liver, had the modeſty to contend with three pounds of ox-tripe for a wager of a guinea—the time allowed for the completion of this little job, was half an hour, and in the ſhort ſpace of five minutes two pounds and a half totally diſappeared; but a piece of the fat gut, which was rather cold, ſtuck ſo cloſe to his mouth, that the cormorant was obliged to give up the bet; but afterwards expreſſed a deſire to renew the engagement the next morning for five guineas.

SWINDLING AT FAIRS.

At Halifax fair, two ſwindlers exerciſed their profeſſional arts with ſuch efficacy, as to procure near twenty pounds from a manufacturer, by pretending that they had found a wedge of gold near the piece-hall, which was worth upwards of ſixty pounds, and of which he was to have half the value, immediately upon the ſame being diſpoſed of; this he readily agreed to, and the ingenious finders prevailing upon their deluded partner to ſuffer them to ſeek for a purchaſer, they retired to their public-houſe, mounted their horſes, and have not ſince been heard of. Upon examining the *gold*, it proved to be nothing more than a piece of lead covered with braſs!

At Sleaford fair, the 20th ult. as a reſpectable grazier, advanced in years, was walking up the ſtreet, to the ſheep market, he was overtaken by a perſon who pretended that he had a quantity of lambhogs to diſpoſe of, and conſequently wiſhed to *obtain* all poſſible information reſpecting the price thereof, ſaying, that he lived about the diſtance of two miles from Yaxley barracks. As they walked together, the grazier's *new* companion picked up a canvas purſe, the end of which was tied with a piece of white tape, which he privately put into his pocket, requeſting the grazier to walk with him to an *outſide*, in order to *examine minutely* the purſe, with it's contents; ſaying, that it was doubtleſs ſomething of *immenſe value*. The grazier accompanied his *new friend* to the place of deſtination, (being a narrow back lane), when opening the purſe, a little box was diſcovered, with ſomething therein reſembling diamonds ſet in *pure gold*, with a curious figure engraved thereon,

much

much like two lines drawn acrofs each other, which was alfo very *nicely executed.* The grazier wifhed to know the *value* of the gold, &c. his new friend told him, that it was worth upwards of 150l. and that he was entitled to half the value. The grazier faid, that he was not aware of the *value* of the property, but fhould be perfectly fatisfied with 50l. as his fhare of what was fo *ingenioufly* found. Whilft thefe two were dividing the *booty*, another *perfon* ftepped up to them, *pretending* to be the fteward of a certain Gentleman in Lincolnfhire, unto whom they difclofed the fecret, who gave it as his private opinion, that the property had better be left in poffeffion of the grazier, who ought to depofit fourteen guineas in part, for the fame, until the other *interefted* party went to a friend's houfe in Sleaford, to borrow *fifty pounds* to pay the grazier his *fhare* of what was fo curioufly found.—This was inftantly complied with, and the fum of fourteen guineas was paid into the hands of his new companion, requefting the honeft and induftrious grazier, at the fame time, to dine at the George Inn, and be *merry*, and in the courfe of an *hour* he fhould receive 50l. as his part of the property. The deluded grazier retired to the inn, but alas! in vain he ftopped until a late hour; for both his *new friends* were abfconded, and have not yet been heard of. It has fince turned out that the men were both fwindlers, who thus obtained from the honeft grazier fourteen guineas, by their fkilful exertions; and upon examining the property, it proves to be a piece of lead curioufly overlaid with leaf gold, and the diamonds were nothing more than a kind of bright ftones fet therein. It is ftrongly fufpected that thefe were the two rafcals who fwindled the manufacturer out of near 20l. at the late fair at Halifax, by fchemes of a fimilar nature. It is hoped this will operate as a complete caution to the public, if poffible, to apprehend the offenders.—One of the men was of a middle ftature, pale complexion, and dark hair, dreffed decently; the other fellow was fomething higher in ftature, ftout made, and rather flefhy, had on a wide great coat, &c.

CUMBERLAND HUNT AND CARLISLE RACES.

The 50l. given by the members of the hunt, was won on Saturday the 27th ult. by Mr. Hutchinfon's g. c. Little Scot. The heavy rains had fo fwelled the Eden, that it overflowed it's banks, and in fome parts of the race-ground, the horfes were belly deep in the water. Five ftarted. There was a ftag-hunt the fame day, which afforded good fport, in a chace of about thirty miles.

KING'S HUNDRED.

Friday laft his Majefty's plate of one hundred guineas, was run for at Carlifle. It was won by Mr. Hutchinfon's Little Scot, beating a ch. h. of Lord Derby's, and Sir H. T. Vane's g. h. Dapple. The race was hard run.

WIGS.

In the prefent rage for *female wigs*, it may not be amifs to give the following anecdote, recorded by the late Horace Walpole:—The Countefs, of Suffolk had married Mr. Howard, and they were fo poor, that they took a refolution of going to Hanover before the death of Queen Anne, in order to pay their court to the future Royal Family. Such was their poverty, that, having invited fome friends to dinner, and being difappointed of a fmall remittance, fhe was forced *to fell her hair* to furnifh the entertainment.—*Long wigs* were then in fafhion, and her hair being fine, long, and fair, produed her *twenty pounds!*

The

The last spring and summer were so very favourable for the breeding of rabbits, that the warrens in all parts of the country are supposed to have never been more plentifully stocked with those animals than they were a month ago; but great numbers of them have since perished of a disease generally produced among the young ones by continued wet weather in the autumn. The disease is infectious, and the first symptom is a swelling of the glands of the neck, the rot ensues, and death soon follows.

A singular accident happened a few days since at Rackheath; as a farmer and his son were conversing together in a field, where a horse was feeding, all on a sudden the animal sunk into the earth, (hind-foot first) to the depth of fifteen feet, out of which he was dug, crushed to death. The cavity was only just sufficient to admit his body; the surrounding soil remaining firm.

On Sunday se'nnight a curious circumstance happened at Gateshead Fell, near Newcastle:—As the Usworth cavalry were exercising, the bridle bit of one of the horses, in full gallop, caught the belt of an horseman, took him from his seat, and placed him on another, with his back to the rider.

LAW CASE RELATIVE TO AN INJURY SUSTAINED BY A DOG.

COURT OF KING'S BENCH, NOV. 21.

LEACH *v.* CROSSBY.

THE plaintiff brought an action against the defendant, who is by trade a dyer, for negligently keeping a dog accustomed to bite, and which had bit him. The Jury gave him a verdict and 15l. damages.

A rule having been obtained to shew cause why there should not be a new trial, Mr. Romily shewed cause against the rule; and endeavoured ingeniously to shew that the verdict was just, and therefore ought to stand.

Lord Kenyon.—This is a question of very extensive consequence indeed. If the defendant has done wrong in this case, no man can keep a dog or a gun, or set a steel trap in his garden, however necessary they may be for the protection of his property. I held that an action would lie against the owner of a vicious bull that was put into a field through which there was a public right of road. I held it to be equivalent to a public right of road, because he had left it open for the public to go through; but this case is totally different. The defendant's property was most liable to be injured. At Manchester and other parts of the country, tenter yards and bleeching-grounds, we see from the newspapers, are often robbed; and what would be the case if dogs, which are such safe-guards to property, were not permitted to be kept? The dog in this case was confined in the day time by a chain only two yards long. We have here a plan of the premises, and I see that the door opens at a very great distance from the part of the yard where the dog was chained, and the plaintiff, who called on the defendant on business at the time he received the injury, ought to have gone to his house; and if this plaintiff chose to go up the defendant's yard, where this dog was chained, without taking some of the servants of the family along with him, he must go at his own peril. Every man must be sorry for the injury he has received, and the jury from compassion gave him a verdict. It is a very clear case. There must be a new trial.—Rule absolute.

POETRY,

POETRY.

THE HIGH COURT OF DIANA.

THE SPORTSMAN. A CANTATA.

By Mr. THOMAS NICHOLS.

RECITATIVE.

NOW from the busy scenes of noisy trade,
The Sportsman flies to meet the peaceful shade,
Cheer'd by the downy cushions of repose,
Well fitted for the sport, alert he goes,
To kiss the virgin harbinger of morn,
Where the clear dew-drop decks the sloe-dress'd thorn;
With buskin'd feet retreads the stubble glades,
Or where the game birds seek autumnal shades;
The while his dogs curve round, with nimble joint,
Inhale the grateful scent, and make the point;
'Till when unbroke, the quiv'ring covey flies,
To yield his levell'd tube, the annual prize,
The gladden'd hills return the loud report,
And ev'ry care is buried in the sport;
Then as he bears his polish'd piece along,
Thus o'er the wilds he trills the season's song.

AIR.

Go, plod away life, you to Mammon inclin'd,
Go, trouble Malign, and make sport of mankind;
Lie, flatter, and fawn, where there's interest in view,
The game you are ever inclin'd to pursue:
Of sport, nobler far, the blithe sportsman shall sing,
Now October returns us the game on the wing.

How charming, to start with the bright opening sky,
While the lark greets the ear, and the landscape the eye;
To single the bird from the covey we meet,
And reload with the delicate spoil at our feet!
No pastime can equal, though fram'd by a king,
While October returns us the game on the wing.

'Gainst the sportsman, we know the pert fribble will league,
Say, he travels thro' dirt, and bows down to fatigue;
Far better his lot, oft to tire with his sport,
Than to toil for ingratitude, bred in a court.
Our pleasures are pure, and ne'er harbour a sting,
While October returns us the game on the wing.

On the skill of her sportsman, Britannia shall smile,
When war blows the blast, and awakens the isle;
The foe that presumes to set foot on our shore,
Shall be check'd by his gun, and insult us no more.
From the fribble no conduct like this shall e'er spring,
While October returns us the game on the wing.

With the prime of her roses, health dresses the cheek,
Sweet peace is our hand-maid, and innocence meek;
While health, and blest quiet, but seldom we find,
With the dull-plodding trifles, who traffic behind.

Thus bleſt with our paſtime, enraptur'd we
ſing,
While October returns us the game on
the wing.

Diſguſted with meanneſs, the churl we de-
ſpiſe,
To our friends we convey, what the ſeaſon
ſupplies;
Tho' pleaſures attend on our rational drift,
Far more felicity ſprings from a gift.
What conduct ſurpaſſes, ye moraliſts ſing,
While October returns us the game on
the wing.

Hence may plods, churls, and fribbles, and
all who're inclin'd
To rail at our ſport, and make ſport of
mankind,
Ne'er feel in the breaſt what our paſtime
beſtows,
Nor wear the freſh circle, health twines for
our brows.
O'er the ſpoils of the gun may they ne'er
ſit to ſing,
While October returns us the game on
the wing.

CHORUS.

Fly, fly, ſickly indolence, fly from a court,
Remantle the cheek, and be bleſt with our
ſport;
So your life, as it flits with the moments
away,
Shall be bleſt with repoſe, and unpang'd
your decay.

SONG,

IN THE COMIC OPERA OF

RAMAH DROOG, OR WINE DOES WONDERS.

HOLKAR.—Mr. TOWNSHEND.

NO more her chace ſhall Europe vaunt,
The wily fox, the timid hare,
The nobler ſtag, or wild boar gaunt,
Nought can with Aſia's chaſe compare;
The thicket which the tiger guards,
The Indian youth with tranſport ſee,
Thence pluck the warrior's true rewards,
In Glory's fruit, from Peril's tree.

Slow the elephants advance,
Afar they ſcent the dreadful game;
Trembling, they view the wood aſkance,
And palpitate with fear and ſhame.
Now with ſhouts the thicket beat,
The well-pois'd tube each hunter brings,
Levell'd—prepar'd with death to greet
The mighty tiger when he ſprings.

Quick as the lightning's flaſh he darts,
Around his flaming eyes are caſt;
This moment chills the braveſt hearts,
Perhaps this moment is your laſt;
This way he turns!—Of death beware!
Inſtant a well aim'd volley fires;
And while loud echoes rend the air,
He foams—he ſtruggles—and expires.

SONG.—THE LITTLE ISLAND.

SUNG AT SADLER'S WELLS.

DADDY Neptune, one day,
To Freedom did ſay,
" If ever I live upon dry land,
The ſpot I would hit on,
Should be little Britain."—
Says Freedom, " Why that's my own
" Iſland."
O! its a nice little iſland,
'Tis a tight little, right little iſland.

Julius Cæſar, the Roman,
Who yielded to no man,
Came by water; he could not come by land;
And Dane, Pict, and Saxon,
Their homes turn'd their backs on,
And all for the ſake of the iſland.
O! its a nice little Iſland,
'Tis a right little, tight little Iſland.

Then another great War-man,
Call'd Billy the Norman,
Cried, " Hang it, I don't much like my
land;
It would ſure be more handy,
To leave this Normandy,
And go to that beautiful Iſland:
Shan't us go and viſit the Iſland,
The right little, tight little Iſland?"

Then ſays Harold the King,
As hiſtories ſing,
" While I live it ſhall never be thy land;"
So he died, I well wot,
Becauſe he was ſhot,
In bravely defending the Iſland.
Poor Harold, the King of the Iſland,
Like a Briton, he died for his Iſland.

Yet 'twas partly deceit
Help'd the Normans to beat;
Of traitors they manag'd to buy land:
By Dane, Saxon, or Pict,
We had never been lick'd,
Had we ſtuck to the King of the Iſland:
Then let us ſtand firm to the Iſland,
The right little, tight little Iſland.

The Spaniſh Armadas,
Set out to invade us,

And

And ſwore that if e'er they came nigh land,
They could not do leſs,
Than hang poor Queen Beſs,
And kick up a duſt in the Iſland.
O! the poor Queen of the Iſland,
The Dons would have plunder'd the Iſland.

Thoſe proud, puff'd up rakes,
Thought to make ducks and drakes
Of our wealth; but before they could ſpy land,
Our Drake had the luck
To make their pride duck,
And ſtoop to the Boys of the Iſland.
Huzza for the Tars of the Iſland,
Of the right little, tight little Iſland.

Now I don't wonder much,
That the French and the Dutch
Have oft ſince been tempted to try land;
And I wonder much leſs,
They have met no ſucceſs,
For why ſhould we give 'em the Iſland?
Pray an't it our own little Iſland?
A nice little, tight little Iſland.

Then as Freedom and Neptune
Have hitherto kept tune,
In each ſinging, "This ſhall be my land;"
Let the Army of England,
Or all they can bring, land,
We'll ſhew them ſome play for the Iſland.
O! how we'll fight for the Iſland,
The right little, tight little Iſland.

The monſtrous Great Nation,
With grand botheration,
Would vapour o'er lowland and highland;
May our Nelſon be bleſt,
Who has lowered their creſt,
And taught them reſpect for the Iſland.
O! it's a nice little Iſland,
A right little, tight little Iſland.

Now they all have the hip,
And at ſea ſcarce a ſhip,
Let 'em go and build more upon dry land;
While our conqueſts increaſe,
Till the bleſſings of peace
Shall glad ev'ry heart in the Iſland.
O! it's a nice little Iſland,
A right little, tight little Iſland.

POOR TOM HALLIARD.

BALLAD.—BY DR. WALCOTT.

NOW the rage of battle ended,
And the French for mercy call,
Death no more in ſmoke and thunder,
Rode upon the vengeful ball.

Yet what brave and loyal heroes,
Saw the ſun of morning bright—
Ah! condemn'd by cruel fortune,
Ne'er to ſee the ſtar of night.

From the main-deck to the quarter,
Strew'd with limbs, and wet with blood,
Poor Tom Halliard, pale and wounded,
Crawl'd where his brave Captain ſtood.

"O my noble Captain! tell me,
"Ere I'm borne a corpſe away,
"Have I done a ſeaman's duty,
"On this great and glorious day?

"Tell a dying ſailor truly,
"For my life is fleeting faſt;
"Have I done a ſeaman's duty?
"Can there aught my mem'ry blaſt?

"Ah! brave Tom," the Captain anſwer'd,
"Thou a ſailor's part haſt done!
"I revere thy wounds with ſorrow—
"Wounds by which our glory's won!"

"Thanks, my Captain;—Life is ebbing
"Faſt from this deep-wounded heart;
"But, O grant one little favour,
"'Ere I from the world depart.

"Bid ſome kind and truſty ſailor,
"When I'm number'd with the dead,
"For my dear and conſtant Catherine,
"Cut a lock from this poor head.

"Bid him to my Catherine give it,
"Saying Her's alone I die!
"Kate will keep the mournful preſent,
"And embalm it with a ſigh.

"Bid him too this letter bear her,
"Which I've penn'd with panting breath;
"Kate may ponder on the writing,
"When the hand is cold in death."

"That I will," replied the Captain,
"And be ever Catherine's Friend."—
"Ah, my good and kind Commander,
"Now my pains and ſorrows end."

Mute towards his Captain, weeping,
Tom uprais'd a thankful eye—
Grateful then, his foot embracing,
Sunk with Kate on his laſt ſigh!

Who, that ſaw a ſcene ſo mournful,
Could without a tear depart?
He muſt own a ſavage nature—
Pity never warm'd his heart.

Now, in his white hammock ſhrouded
By the kind and penſive crew,
As he dropp'd into the ocean,
All burſt out—"Poor Tom, adieu!"

THE COTTAGER.

A Cow, a pig, the feather'd brood,
The cot, which on the common ftood,
The fcythe and fickle, flail and fpade,
Brought Hodge, and family, their bread.

When his kind ftars thefe aids afford,
Hodge is as happy as his lord;
He felt no want—was blithe as May,
Cattle, or wife, ne'er went aftray.

But now the commons are inclos'd,
His fav'rite ftock to fale expos'd;
His cow, his calf, his pig are gone,
His fheep are "kill'd off," ev'ry one;
His flail, fcythe, fickle, and his fpade,
Could not fupply his houfe with bread.

Hunger, no fear of law defcries,
"No fear of God before his eyes,"
He ftole a Goofe, by famine led,
From that fpot where his own had fed.

Now to the Juftice brought in hafte,
That Juftice who'd inclos'd the wafte,
His Worfhip in a paffion flew—
In filence Hodge a long face drew—
"A halter, firrah! you'll not mifs,
"For perpetrating crimes like this."

Hodge droop'd his head, and heav'd a figh,
Then meekly utter'd this reply:—
"The crime is fmall, in man or woman,
"Should they a goofe fteal from a common;
"But what can plead that man's excufe
"Who fteals a common from a goofe?"

W. HUTTON.

Birmingham, Sept. 24, 1798.

THE WHIMSICAL MAL-ENTENDU;

AN EPIGRAM.

A Poor fimple foreigner, not long ago,
Whofe knowledge of Englifh was, fimply, fo fo:
At a fhop window reading, "Good pickles "fold here,"
To the fhopwoman faid, "Vat is pickles, "my dear?"
"Why, pickles," fays fhe, "is a fort of "name,
"Like preferves, and the meaning is "nearly the fame;
"For pickling preferves, though not quite "the fame way,
"Yet 'tis much the fame thing, as a body "may fay."
The foreigner bow'd, and gave thanks for his leffon,
Which, the next day at dinner, he made a fine mefs on:
For a loud clap of thunder caus'd Mi Kitty Nervous,
To ftart from her chair, and cry, "Mercy "preferve us!"
While he, keeping clofely his leffon in view,
Cry'd, "Mercy *preferve* us and *pickle* us "too!"

BRUSH.

SONGS IN THE CAPTIVE OF SPILBURG.

AIR.—MOOLA.

When the fhepherds afk my hand, Sir,
Little heed I of their pain;
With a courtfey, I make anfwer—
Thank ye, Sir—but call again—
For I have vow'd to wear the willow,
Willow, willow,
Thank ye, Sir, I'll wear the willow,
Willow, willow.

But when feigning's o'er, believe me,
Hand and heart I'll give my fwain;
And, if falfe, he fhould deceive me,
Try my fortune o'er again:
I have no heart to wear the willow,
Willow, willow;
Thank ye, Sir, I'll wear no willow.
Willow, willow.

AIR.—KOYRAKIN.

I've lov'd fo many a maiden fair,
Of names that fo much vary,
I fcarcely know which caus'd my care,
Or Fanny, Befs, or Mary.
But happy I! for not a thing
Can meet me fo contrary,
That will not make me think and fing
Of Fanny, Befs, or Mary.
With a heigho! heigho!

I always was, from boy to man,
Well pleas'd to toy with any—
Now if a lady flap her fan,
Why—ftraight I think on Fanny—
Dear Fanny, I remember you,
No lafs fo fmart and pretty!
But if you offer me a bet,
Why—then I think on Betty.
With a heigho! heigho!

Then Betty fhe is all my theme,
So round, fo plump and jolly;
But if I hear a parrot fcream—
It makes me think on Polly.
Thus happy I! while fcarce a thing
Can meet me fo contrary,
That will not make me think and fing
Of Fanny, Befs, or Mary.
With a heigho heigo